

2006

U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of International Labor Affairs



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR'S
2006 FINDINGS
ON THE **WORST** FORMS OF
CHILD LABOR

Report Required by the Trade and Development Act of 2000

SECRETARY OF LABOR
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20210

AUG 31 2007

The Honorable Richard B. Cheney
President of the Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Mr. President:

The enclosed report, titled *The Department of Labor's 2006 Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labor*, is submitted in accordance with section 504 of the Trade Act of 1974 as amended (19 U.S.C. 2464). The report describes the efforts of 141 countries and territories to meet their international commitments to eliminate the worst forms of child labor. We hope this report will be useful to the Congress.

Sincerely,


Elaine L. Chao

Enclosure

SECRETARY OF LABOR
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20210

AUG 31 2007

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House of
Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Madam Speaker:

The enclosed report, titled *The Department of Labor's 2006 Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labor*, is submitted in accordance with section 504 of the Trade Act of 1974 as amended (19 U.S.C. 2464). The report describes the efforts of 141 countries and territories to meet their international commitments to eliminate the worst forms of child labor. We hope this report will be useful to the Congress.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "E.L. Chao". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "E" and "L".

Elaine L. Chao

Enclosure

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Acknowledgments

This report was prepared under the direction of Charlotte M. Ponticelli, Deputy Undersecretary for International Affairs, James Carter, former Deputy Undersecretary for International Affairs, Lawrence Casey, Associate Deputy Undersecretary for International Affairs, Robert Owen, Counselor, Stephen Thompson, Special Assistant, and Marcia Eugenio, Director of the Office of Child Labor, Forced Labor and Human Trafficking (OCFT). Coordination of the report was by Christine Camillo, Charita Castro, Tina McCarter, and Amy Ritualo of OCFT, and the writing, editing, and research were done by OCFT staff: Ana Aslan, Taylor Barnes, Jacob Bourgeois, Kathryn Chinnock, Donna Chung, Avni Danak, Diantha Garms, Steven Genson, Laura Geho, Sharon Heller, Maureen Jaffe, Jona Lai, Rebecca Macina, Katelin Maher, Katie Mauldin, Chris Meservy, Sarah Morgan, Michal Murphy, Sarah Newsome, Angela Peltzer, Whitney Phelps, Rachel Rigby, Tanya Rasa, Vivita Rozenbergs, Randall Salm, Brandie Sasser, Samantha Schasberger, Mihail Seroka, Erin Smith, Michelle Speisman, Rachel Spring, Anna Turner, Jacob von Reyn, Patrick White, and Bruce Yoon.

Other personnel in the Bureau of International Labor Affairs, the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Policy, and the Office of the Solicitor who made major contributions include: Aparna Darisipudi, Joyce Elliotte, Sonia Firpi, Alexa Gunter, Craig Hukill, Matthew Levin, Nicholas Levintow, Julie Misner, Carlos Quintana, Doris Senko, Sherry Smith, and Stephanie Swirsky.

This report was published by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of International Labor Affairs (ILAB). Copies of this and other reports in ILAB's child labor series may be obtained by contacting the Office of Child Labor, Forced Labor and Human Trafficking, Bureau of International Labor Affairs, U.S. Department of Labor, Room S-5317, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20210. Telephone: (202) 693-4843; Fax: (202) 693-4830; e-mail: GlobalKids@dol.gov. The reports are also available on the Internet at: <http://www.dol.gov/ilab/>. ILAB welcomes comments on the report, which can be submitted to the e-mail address listed above.

Acronyms

ADB	Asian Development Bank
AGOA	African Growth and Opportunity Act
ASEAN	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
ATPA	Andean Trade Preference Act
ATPDEA	Andean Trade Promotion and Drug Eradication Act
AUSAID	Australian Agency for International Development
CAFTA-DR	Central America-Dominican Republic Free Trade Agreement
CBTPA	Caribbean Basin Trade Partnership Act
CEACR	International Labor Organization Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
ECASS	Economic Community of Central African States
ECPAT	End Child Prostitution, Child Pornography and Trafficking of Children for Sexual Purposes
EU	European Union
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GNP	Gross National Product
GSP	Generalized System of Preferences
OCFT	Office of Child Labor, Forced Labor and Human Trafficking
IDB	Inter-American Development Bank
ILO	International Labor Organization
ILO Convention 138	International Labor Organization, Convention No. 138: Minimum Age for Admission to Employment
ILO Convention 182	International Labor Organization, Convention No. 182: Worst Forms of Child Labor
ILO-IPEC	International Labor Organization, International Program on the Elimination of Child Labor
IMF	International Monetary Fund
IOM	International Organization for Migration
MERCOSUR	Common Market of the South (America); members include Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay, Uruguay, and Venezuela
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
NGO	Non-governmental Organization
OAS	Organization of American States
OSCE	Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe
PRSP	Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper
SIMPOC	Statistical Information and Monitoring Program on Child Labor
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Program
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

USAID
USDOL
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WFP

United States Agency for International Development
United States Department of Labor
Office of the United States Trade Representative
World Food Program

Foreword

In 2006, the United Nations released two global reports issuing a worldwide call to action to eliminate the worst forms of child labor and end violence against children. The second global report on child labor, *The End of Child Labour: Within Reach*, by the International Labor Organization (ILO), a specialized UN agency, pointed to some encouraging trends regarding the elimination of child labor around the world. In comparison with statistics reported in 2002, the ILO found that the number of working children ages 5 to 14 around the world fell by approximately 10 percent, from 211 million to 191 million. The data also suggested a particularly rapid decline in child labor in the Latin American and Caribbean region. While these statistics highlight positive developments in the global movement to eradicate exploitive child labor, there are still millions of children who continue to experience exploitation. In August 2006, the United Nation's Secretary-General released the first, comprehensive study on violence against children, which highlighted the fact that children experience violence in the workplace. Scores of children continue to work for abusive employers and suffer maltreatment such as verbal abuse, physical punishment, psychological torture, and sexual harassment. Together, these reports underscore the importance of increasing the commitment of national governments to dedicate resources directed at ending abusive child labor, and integrating the elimination of child labor into broader development frameworks such as the Millennium Development Goals, United Nation's Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF), UNESCO's Education for All (EFA), and World Bank's Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers (PRSPs). The G8 and UNESCO, for example, have recognized child labor as an obstacle to the achievement of EFA, a global effort to promote universal education by 2015.

Children deserve the opportunity to experience a childhood free from exploitation and the chance to receive an education. I am proud that the U.S. Government, through my office's reports on child labor and technical cooperation initiatives and agreements, USAID's basic education projects, and the Department of State's anti-trafficking projects, helps draw awareness to and remove children around the world from exploitive situations.

In its sixth year, USDOL's *Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labor* provides new and updated information on the incidence and nature of child labor, relevant laws and enforcement, and programs and policies in place to address exploitive child labor in 141 countries and territories. In order to work towards the ILO's global goal of eliminating the worst forms of child labor by 2016, the international community and trade beneficiary countries must push forward in addressing the key challenges that keep or make children vulnerable to exploitive work. Controlling and eliminating the spread of HIV/AIDs; increasing opportunities for youth employment; investing in rural development; and encouraging trade and economic growth will do much to stimulate an even more rapid decline in the incidence of working

children. It is our hope that this report will serve as one more tool in the fight to address the worst forms of child labor and will encourage U.S. trading partners to redouble their efforts to combat child labor.

Charlotte M. Ponticelli
Deputy Undersecretary
for International Affairs
U.S. Department of Labor
August 2007

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



Young Nigerian boys tilling a field.

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This publication is the Department of Labor's sixth annual report prepared in accordance with Section 412(c) of the Trade and Development Act of 2000 (TDA).¹ The TDA expands country eligibility criteria for preferential tariff treatment under the Generalized System of Preferences program (GSP) enacted by the Trade Act of 1974 to include the implementation of commitments to eliminate the worst forms of child labor.² The TDA also applies this criterion to eligibility for trade benefits under the Africa Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA), the U.S.-Caribbean Basin Trade Partnership Act (CBTPA), and the Andean Trade Preference Act/ Andean Trade Promotion and Drug Eradication Act (ATPA/ ATPDEA). Section 412(c) of the TDA contains a mandate for the Secretary of Labor to report on each "beneficiary country's implementation of its international commitments to eliminate the worst forms of child labor."³

The TDA definition of the "worst forms of child labor" is substantially similar to that contained in International Labor Organization (ILO) Convention 182. The TDA and Convention 182 consider a "child" to be a person under the age of 18. The definition includes as "worst forms of child labor" all forms of slavery or practices similar to slavery, the sale or trafficking of children, debt bondage or serfdom; the forcible recruitment of children for use in armed conflict; the commercial sexual exploitation of children; the involvement of children in drug trafficking; and work that is likely to harm children's health, safety, or morals.⁴

This report contains profiles of 122 independent countries and a summary report on 19 non-independent countries and territories designated as GSP beneficiaries and/or beneficiaries under the ATPA/ ATPDEA, CBTPA, and AGOA. In addition, the report includes information on former GSP recipients that have negotiated free trade agreements with the United States, in view of Senate Report 108-345.⁵ Each profile contains a data table on key child labor and education statistics and three written sections: (1) incidence and nature of child labor; (2) child

¹ Trade Act, U.S. Code, (1974), Title 19, Section 2464; available from <http://uscode.house.gov/download/pls/19C12.txt>.

² Ibid., Section 2462(b)(2)(G) and (c)(7) and Section 2467(4).

³ Ibid., Section 2464. See also Conference Report, (2000), Section 412; available from http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=106_cong_reports&docid=f:hr606.106.pdf. See also Trade Act, Section 2703(b)(5)(b)(iv) and 3203(b)(6)(b)(iv).

⁴ ILO, C182 Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999, [database online] 2002 [cited January 5, 2004]; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/convdisp2.htm>.

⁵ Senate Rpt.108-345 - Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriation Bill, 2005.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

labor laws and enforcement; and (3) current government policies and programs to eliminate the worst forms of child labor. Information included covers the period March 2006 through February 2007.

The country profiles provide a comprehensive picture of child labor in a country and describe government efforts to combat the problem. This Executive Summary contains some of the highlights that emerge from each section of the country profiles, as well as other important developments in regard to child labor during the past year.

Data Table: Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor

Each country profile contains a data table that includes key indicators on child labor and education. The data table provides basic information about the rate of child work versus participation in school, basic policies in regard to child work and education, and international commitments to address exploitive child labor. Where available, the following information is included in the data table:

- Percent of children estimated as working in a given year
- Minimum age of work
- Age to which education is compulsory
- Whether the country's laws provide for free education
- Gross and net primary enrollment rates
- Percent of children attending school
- Percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5
- Whether the country has ratified ILO Conventions 138 and 182, and
- Whether the country is a participating member of ILO-IPEC.

The statistics on child work and school attendance are obtained through the Understanding Children's Work (UCW) project. UCW is a collaborative effort by ILO-IPEC, UNICEF, and the World Bank to address the need for more and better statistics on child labor. While these three organizations and others independently gather information on child work, the UCW project, with support from USDOL, analyzes data gathered by these institutions using a single definition of child work and a set age group. Such analysis allows for better comparisons across countries. In this way, USDOL and UCW are contributing to a better understanding of child work.

Perhaps the most significant development in regard to child labor data over the reporting period is the release of new global estimates on child labor in the ILO's second Global Report on child labor, *The End of Child Labour: Within Reach*, published in May 2006. This report showed a decline in the incidence of child labor around the world. According to the ILO, between 2000 and 2004, the global number of working children ages 5 to 14 fell by approximately 10 percent, from 211 million to 191 million.⁶ However, there are still an alarming number of children working under hazardous and exploitive conditions. According to the report, 74 million (approximately 39 percent) of working children 5 to 14 still perform hazardous work. While children's economic activity decreased significantly in Latin America and the Caribbean, it only slightly declined in Africa. The study found that the majority of working children are found in agriculture (69 percent), followed by services (22 percent) and industry (9 percent).

⁶ ILO, *The End of Child Labour: Within Reach*, Geneva, 2006, 6.

INCIDENCE AND NATURE OF CHILD LABOR



As revealing as statistics can be about exploitive child labor, more information is needed to provide a complete picture of the kinds of work in which children engage. This section of the report complements the data points on child work and education with a narrative section that describes the work that children perform. Although the focus of the section is on the worst forms of child labor, it is not always possible to separate the worst forms from other types of work performed by children. For that reason, information on child work in general is included. The country profiles reveal certain trends in regard to the work that children perform. Below the most frequently cited types of child labor in this report are described.

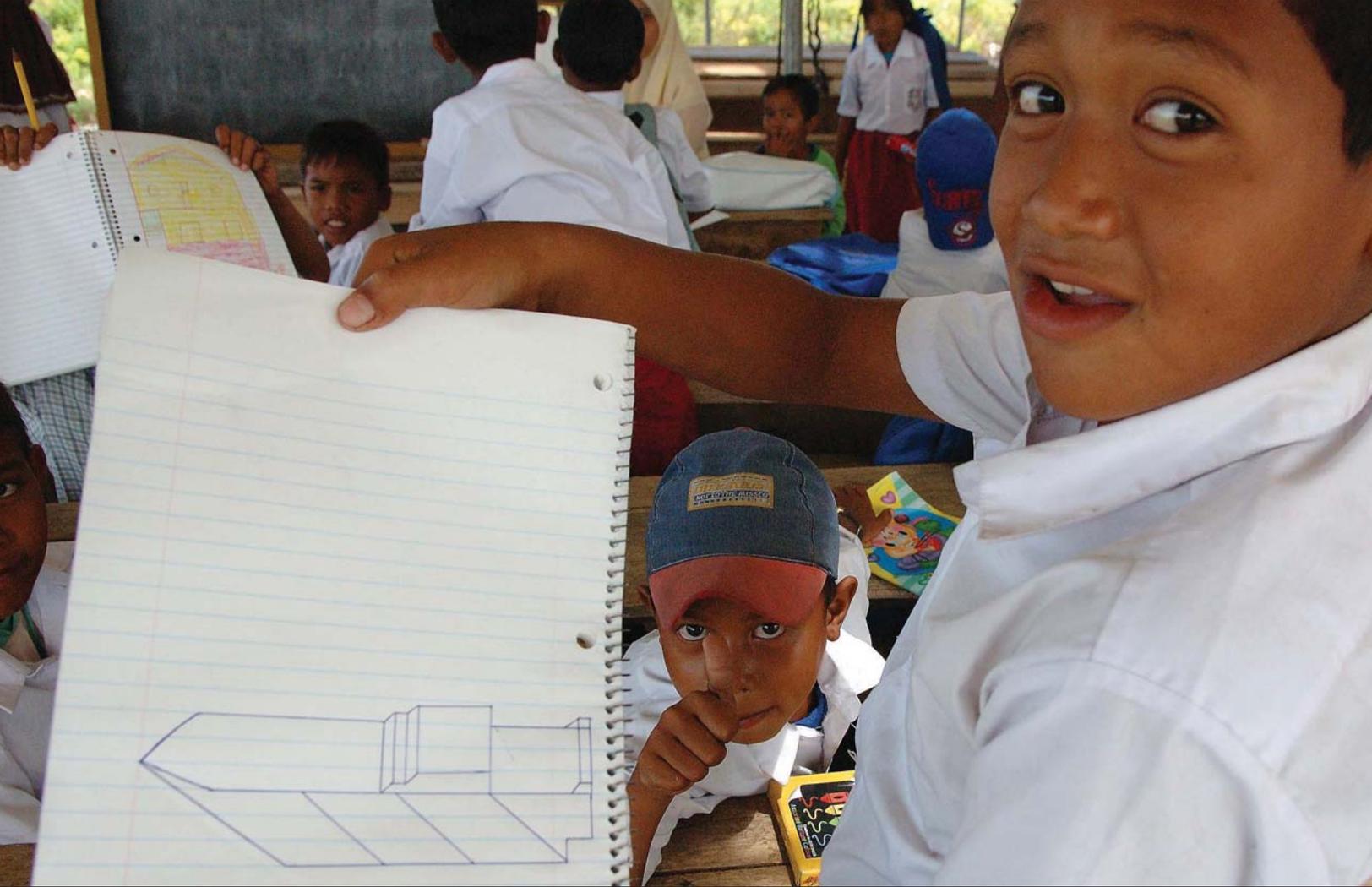
Agriculture Sector

In all geographic regions, and almost every country covered in this report, one of the most commonly cited sectors in which children work is agriculture. Children work in subsistence farming, small to medium-size family farms, and large-scale commercial enterprises. No matter the size of the farm, children working in agriculture face a myriad of health and safety hazards. Tasks such as harvesting crops, trimming and pruning, and transporting loads are physically demanding, performed under harsh environmental conditions, and sustained for long hours with little rest. Children's bodies are often not sufficiently developed to perform the tasks to which they are assigned. Children also apply or are exposed to pesticides and herbicides and often lack appropriate protective gear. Many children working in agriculture, especially children of migrant workers, do not have access to education services. Several profiles report situations of forced or indentured child labor in the agriculture sector.

Informal Commercial and Service Sector

Other forms of child labor cited frequently in this report are services and commercial activities, usually in the informal sector. Most countries covered by this report, from the African nations of Chad, Ghana, Niger and Togo to Peru in Latin America and India in South Asia, have small or large informal sectors. Children involved in the informal sector in commercial activities commonly work on the streets and in marketplaces, performing

INCIDENCE AND NATURE OF CHILD LABOR



Indonesian boy removed from child labor spends time learning.

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tasks such as selling and bartering goods, carrying loads, shining shoes, and trash-picking. They work in bars and restaurants, small commerce, bicycle and car repair shops, and on buses. An activity that is reported to be on the rise in some countries is street begging, often under the orders of an adult and, in some cases, as part of organized begging rings. Children involved in street work are vulnerable to hazardous conditions, sexual exploitation, and involvement in illegal activities, such as drug-trafficking or crime.

Child Domestic Labor

Child domestic labor, or work performed by children outside of the immediate family home, may be one of the most widespread yet least recognized forms of child labor. Many children involved in this activity live in the home where they work. This practice is often looked upon as benign and even beneficial for a child, usually a girl, and her family. The child may be placed with wealthier relatives or acquaintances in larger cities in the hopes that he or she will have better access to services like education. Unfortunately, child domestic laborers are often subject to exploitive conditions, and are vulnerable to trafficking, finding themselves in slavery-like situations. They may be forced to work long and physically exhausting hours, and perform work that is dangerous and inappropriate for their age and size. They are at risk of sexual exploitation and verbal and physical abuse by household members. Their living conditions and nutrition are often poor and inadequate. In a large number of cases, child domestic laborers are not given the opportunity to pursue their studies. Throughout the world, in countries such as the West African nations of Benin, Cote d'Ivoire, Gabon, Guinea, Nigeria, and Togo, as well as the Caribbean nation of Haiti, children work in third-party homes, often isolated from the outside world.

Child Trafficking and Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children

Another form of child labor widely reported in this publication is child trafficking. Trafficking occurs in virtually all regions of the world, with flows generally moving from poorer supplying areas to more affluent cities and countries. For example, children from Benin, Burkina Faso, Ghana, Mali, and Togo are trafficked into other African countries such as Cote d'Ivoire. Children

INCIDENCE AND NATURE OF CHILD LABOR

from Moldova and Albania are trafficked into European Union countries.

Recruiters often lure children with false promises of legitimate employment. In some cases, parents unable to support their children may unknowingly offer them to traffickers. Children are trafficked for a variety of purposes, including commercial sexual exploitation, work in agriculture, and forced begging. Trafficking leaves children isolated from their communities and their families, with no access to or knowledge of legal protections.

Children in Armed Conflict

As is reported in a number of country profiles, children continue to be recruited or forced into armed conflict in Africa, South America, Asia, and the Middle East. The majority of children involved in armed conflict are in Central, Eastern, and Western Africa (including countries covered in this report, such as Burundi, Central African Republic, Chad, Cote d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Somalia, and Uganda). The phenomenon

also exists in countries such as Colombia, Iraq, Nepal, the Philippines, and Sri Lanka. Children serve as combatants, messengers, scouts, cooks, and porters. Male soldiers often sexually exploit girls who have been forced to join armed groups and are unable to escape from their situation.

Children may be kidnapped or forced into combat. In some cases, children may be involved voluntarily, unaware of the dangers and abuses they will face. They are more likely to join if they live in combat zones, are orphaned or separated from family, and/or lack access to education. Children may also seek to exact revenge for violence against their family and villages. Children involved in armed conflict not only risk bodily harm or death, but also endure psychological scars for the duration of their lives. In February 2007, at a conference "Free Children from War," 58 countries signed the "Paris Commitment" to protect children from unlawful recruitment or use by armed forces or armed groups.

As this year's report shows, despite positive indications in terms of the worldwide incidence of child labor, many children



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CHILD LABOR LAWS AND ENFORCEMENT



dangerous and demeaning work that robs them of their childhood and often their future. Countries can take many steps to combat this problem, and one important avenue is through their legal frameworks and enforcement mechanisms. In this section of the country profiles, the report outlines countries' laws related to child labor and the worst forms of child labor, such as laws on the commercial sexual exploitation of children, and presents available evidence regarding implementation.

During the reporting period, some governments made substantial changes to their laws and regulations relating to child labor. In Mauritius, the government raised the minimum age for work from 15 to 16, in line with the age for completion of compulsory education. A new labor law in Bangladesh increased the minimum age for work in the garment sector from 14 to 15. In Madagascar, India, and Panama, labor laws were updated or modified. The Indian government expanded its official list of hazardous work prohibited for children to include domestic services and a number of service and commercial activities, such as work in roadside eateries, restaurants, hotels, and teashops. This is a significant step since the labor laws often do not regulate these informal-sector activities. In Oman, a royal decree increases the maximum prison term from one week to one month for employers who repeatedly use child labor.

During the reporting period, a number of countries enacted legislation or issued executive decrees prohibiting and/or strengthening provisions against worst forms of child labor. As is required under ILO Convention 182, the Governments of Guatemala and Panama designated the types of hazardous work to be considered worst forms of child labor. The Government of the Kyrgyz Republic adopted a children's code that includes a section on the elimination of the worst forms of child labor. New laws against child trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation were enacted in Argentina, Benin, Bolivia, the Dominican Republic, East Timor, Kenya, Peru, and Sri Lanka. In Honduras, a Criminal Code reform relating to commercial sexual exploitation of children was approved. In Sri Lanka, where children continue to be involved in military conflict, the 2006 Penal Code criminalized engaging or recruiting a child for use in armed conflict.

CHILD LABOR LAWS AND ENFORCEMENT

The enforcement of child labor and trafficking laws continued to be weak in many of the countries included in this report. Enforcement efforts are chronically hindered by insufficient resources. In many countries, child labor inspectors do not receive adequate training and are vulnerable to corruption due to low salaries.

Nonetheless, some governments stepped up enforcement of child labor and/or undertook new initiatives, particularly in the area of trafficking. In Albania, a new labor law permits inspections of informal workplaces where child labor is prevalent. In Ecuador, the government created a Child Labor Inspection and Monitoring System to enforce child labor-related provisions of the Labor Code and the Labor Inspection System. The government also created a specialized 36-member police unit and an 8-member trafficking intelligence unit. Authorities arrested 41 alleged traffickers and reported 15 cases of trafficking that reached some stage of prosecution. In Malawi, the government convicted several traffickers, some of whom had trafficked children for work in agriculture.

Some enforcement-related initiatives involved regional cooperation or border controls. For example, the Government of Gabon bought ten patrol boats for its security forces and navy to combat maritime child trafficking, and Gabonese security forces conducted a series of anti-trafficking sweeps, rescuing children from Benin, Ghana, Guinea, Mali, Nigeria, and Togo. In Honduras, the government worked with counterparts in the United States, Mexico, Guatemala, and Belize to identify and repatriate children who were trafficked. The Government of Angola's Immigration Services began enforcing a law requiring unaccompanied minors to present documentation for international travel. In October 2006, the Government of Brazil launched a national trafficking database designed to document and analyze trafficking-related statistics more effectively.

In addition to implementing strong labor laws and taking steps to enforce them, there are many other avenues governments can pursue to address exploitive child labor. This section of the report describes many new policies and programs that governments undertook during the reporting period. Although past editions of this report have included descriptions of



CURRENT GOVERNMENT POLICIES AND PROGRAMS TO ELIMINATE THE WORST FORMS OF CHILD LABOR



government efforts to promote education and other child welfare initiatives, this year's report focuses specifically on government efforts to address exploitive child labor. In this way, a clearer picture emerges in terms of government actions in regard to the problem.

Government Policies and Plans of Action Addressing Child Labor

National plans of action or programs to address child labor typically consist of a combination of strategies, including improving enforcement of child labor laws, raising awareness, enhancing capacity to address the problem, increasing coordination, and possibly enacting legislative reforms. They may also provide for pilot programs to withdraw children from exploitive work and offer children educational alternatives. In some countries, child labor issues are being mainstreamed into larger government policy frameworks or action plans, such as those addressing poverty or child protection. While such mainstreaming diffuses the focus on child labor, it seeks to address child labor's root causes and may result in greater leveraging of resources and inter-institutional collaboration. During 2006, Argentina approved and enacted a National Plan to Combat Child Labor. The Government of Panama adopted its first 5-year National Plan against Child Labor, and the Government of Uganda passed a national child labor policy. The Government of Pakistan adopted a National Action Plan for Children that aims to harmonize child labor programs and work toward the elimination of child labor, and in Bolivia and the Dominican Republic, the governments finalized national plans prioritizing the worst forms of child labor.

Some countries develop national plans to eradicate child labor in specific hazardous sectors. The Governments of Afghanistan, Croatia, Ecuador, Gabon, Kazakhstan, and Macedonia adopted or approved action plans to combat child trafficking. In Nicaragua, a policy including special protections for children involved in trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation, under the government's Policy on Special Protection for Children and Adolescents, came into force. The Government of Colombia also developed a national plan of action to prevent and eradicate commercial sexual exploitation of children and ado-

CURRENT GOVERNMENT POLICIES AND PROGRAMS TO ELIMINATE THE WORST FORMS OF CHILD LABOR



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Young boy loading ice in India.



lescents. The Government of Ghana finalized its 5-year National Program to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor in the cocoa sector. In Kenya, the government and tourism industry are working together to eliminate child sex exploitation in the tourism industry. Many Kenyan hoteliers have signed a Code of Conduct against sex tourism, and the Ministry of Tourism and Wildlife has made the implementation of this Code a prerequisite for receiving an annual license.

In India and Indonesia, the governments developed decentralized plans to eradicate child labor. The Indian States of Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, and Maharashtra enacted and are implementing State Action Plans on the elimination of child labor. In Indonesia, several districts have developed action plans to combat the worst forms of child labor and trafficking.

Several countries mainstreamed the issue of child labor in broader policy initiatives and plans. In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the government finalized a poverty reduction strategy paper that highlights the problem of child labor. In Jordan, the National Agenda for 2006-2018 includes the elimination of the worst forms of child labor as a major goal. The Governments of Guinea-Bissau, Yemen, and Zambia included the issue of child labor in their national development or poverty alleviation plans. In Sri Lanka and the Philippines, governmental 2006 Plans of Action for Decent Work include commitments to eliminate child labor.

Bilateral and Multilateral Cooperation

Some governments participated in multilateral and bilateral cooperation to eliminate child trafficking. In a July 2006 meeting of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), 24 out of 26 countries attending signed the Multilateral Cooperative Agreement to Combat Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children, in West and Central Africa. As part of this agreement, ECOWAS governments agreed to put into place a child trafficking monitoring system, developed by a USDOL-funded project. In addition, governments

CURRENT GOVERNMENT POLICIES AND PROGRAMS TO ELIMINATE THE WORST FORMS OF CHILD LABOR

agreed to ensure that birth certificates and travel identity documents cannot easily be falsified or altered; provide assistance to each other in the investigation, arrest, and prosecution of trafficking offenders; protect, rehabilitate, and reintegrate trafficking victims; and improve educational systems, vocational training, and apprenticeships. Governments in West Africa took steps to put such agreements into practice. For example, the Government of Guinea-Bissau cooperated with Senegalese authorities to provide children rescued from trafficking with services. Such collaboration was not limited to Africa, however, as the Government of Albania ratified an agreement with the Government of Greece to cooperate in the protection and assistance child survivors of trafficking.

Public Awareness

Government efforts to eliminate the worst forms of child labor often include public awareness-raising components. During this reporting period, governments

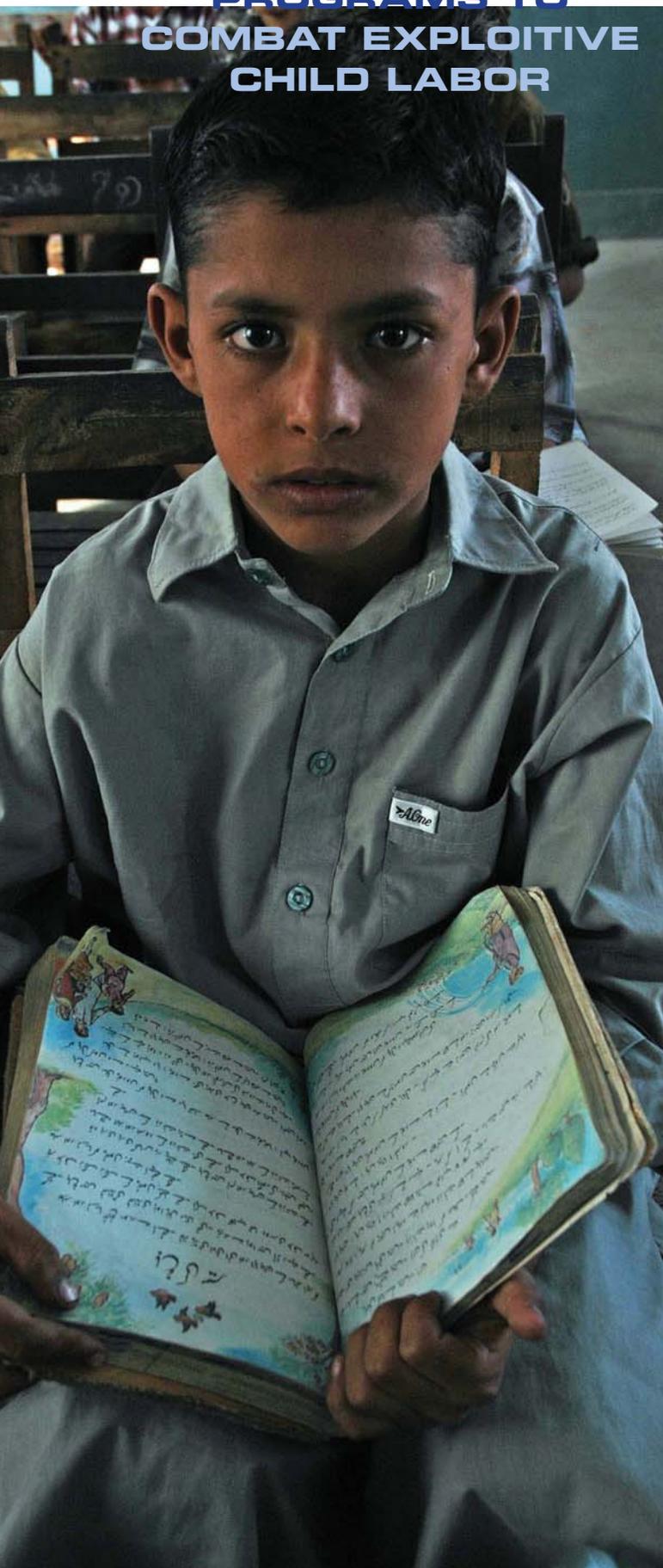
in Bolivia, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Jordan, Malawi, Panama, Paraguay, Venezuela, and Zambia implemented new public awareness campaigns against child labor. The majority of these campaigns focused on child trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation. In Bolivia, the government, as part of its campaign, required international airports to air a television segment on trafficking. The campaign in Ecuador focused on commercial sexual exploitation in the tourism sector. In Panama, the National Commission for the Prevention of Sexual Crimes launched a campaign including activities to educate journalists on trafficking issues.

Scholarships/Stipends

Some child labor elimination initiatives use financial incentives for parents to place their children in school. In Panama, the government's independent Institute for Human Resources, Capacity Building, and Vocational Training provides scholarships and health and educational services to children who have been withdrawn



DIRECT SERVICE PROGRAMS TO COMBAT EXPLOITIVE CHILD LABOR



or prevented from exploitive labor. The Government of Indonesia, with funding from the World Bank, began piloting a conditional cash transfer program to increase children's education participation and reduce child labor for poor families in six provinces.

Shelters and Services for Children Rescued from the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Governments of Chile, Guatemala, and Malawi, for example, provide shelter and services for children who have been trafficked and/or sexually exploited. In Gabon, UNICEF, along with Caritas Gabon, constructed a shelter for children rescued from trafficking. Through these initiatives, child survivors of trafficking can access services such as counseling, medical and psychosocial care, and job training.

U.S. Department of Labor-funded International Child Labor Technical Assistance Programs

Many governmental, international, and non-governmental organizations provided funding and other resources to assist countries around the world protect vulnerable children and increase access to quality basic education. The country profiles contain information on such efforts. Here we focus on child labor technical cooperation projects funded in 2006 by USDOL. These projects aim to prevent or withdraw children from exploitive child labor and provide them with educational opportunities in countries where governments have shown a commitment to addressing worst forms of child labor. During the reporting period, USDOL provided approximately USD 51 million for child labor elimination efforts around the world. The activities funded include projects to eliminate exploitive child labor in 11 countries (Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Egypt, Mali, Nepal, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Tanzania, Thailand, and Zambia). USDOL also funded a regional project to combat the worst forms of child labor, particularly trafficking, in five South Eastern and Eastern European countries (Albania, Bulgaria, Moldova, Romania, and Ukraine) and the United Nations-administrated Province of Kosovo. In addition, USDOL

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Pakistan girl weaving.

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CONCLUSION



funded an effort to oversee initiatives to eliminate the worst forms of child labor in the cocoa sectors of Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana. Finally, USDOL funded projects to increase national capacity to collect data on child labor, and develop a framework to assess the long-term impact of child labor elimination projects.

CONCLUSION

There are a multitude of efforts to eliminate the worst forms of child labor by international organizations, notably the ILO and UNICEF, donor agencies, non-governmental organizations, and national governments. Some of the most innovative programs are a result of collaboration among these different entities, such as the UCW project. The country profiles in this report highlight many other examples of collaborative efforts.

Based on the positive trend cited in its Global Report, the ILO challenges the international community to set as a goal the elimination of most worst forms of child labor by 2016. To achieve this ambitious goal, it will be important to continue legislative reform, develop policy frameworks, improve enforcement, and undertake programs to withdraw and prevent children from the worst forms of child labor. The profiles in this report illustrate models of effective action against child labor that the international community can look to and build upon in the struggle to address the worst forms of child labor.

Data Sources and Definitions

The majority of profiles in this report provide one or more of the following pieces of data: percentage of children estimated as working; gross and net primary enrollment ratios; percent of children attending school; and survival rate to grade five. This section describes the sources and provides definitions for the child labor and education data that appear in this report's country profiles. This section also discusses some of the strengths and weaknesses of these data. While in a few cases more current sources of data may be available than those used here, the report uses the most reliable, standardized sources available to date to allow for cross-country comparisons. In the event that data did not exist from the sources described below and no other reliable and publicly available source of data exists for a country, the report concludes that the statistics are "unavailable."

Working Children

Many of the profiles in this report present data on the percentage of children estimated as working in the country in question. The percent of children estimated as working is the share of all children within a given age group that reported working in market activities. Data presented in the current report may differ from data that were presented in previous reports because more updated data has become available.

Data are from the Understanding Children's Work (UCW) project⁷ analysis of primarily four survey types: 1) ILO's Statistical Information and Monitoring Program on Child Labor (SIMPOC) surveys; 2) UNICEF's Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys (MICS); 3) World Bank (WB)-sponsored surveys, including Living Standards Measurement Surveys (LSMS), Priority Surveys, and others; and 4) other types of survey instruments including Labor Force Surveys (LFS) and Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS). The first three survey programs are commonly recognized as being the primary sources for data on children's work and child labor and therefore generally received priority over all other available data sources.⁸

Every effort was made to include the most recent, reliable and available data source among the four survey types. In countries where a SIMPOC, MICS, or World Bank-sponsored survey did not exist or the data were not available for analysis by the UCW project, other reliable and publicly-available sources of micro-data were analyzed and presented in the report.

In general, when research reports refer to children's work they define work as "economic activity." However, according to UCW researchers Guarcello et al., typical child labor surveys do not collect enough detailed information on children's activities to accurately measure

⁷ As part of broader efforts towards durable solutions to child labor, the ILO, UNICEF and World Bank initiated the inter-agency Understanding Children's Work (UCW) project in December 2000. The project is guided by the Oslo Agenda for Action, which laid out the priorities for the international community in the fight against child labor. For further information see the project Web site at: www.ucw-project.org.

⁸ A.R. Ritualo, C. Castro, and S. Gormly, "Measuring Child Labor: Implications for Policy and Program Design," *Comparative Labor Law and Policy* Vol. 24, 401 (2003).

economic activity.⁹ Economic activity is defined by the ILO as “the production of economic goods and services as defined by the United Nations system of national accounts and balances during a specified time-reference period.”¹⁰ Economic activities can further be broken down into market and non-market activities. Market activities are those activities that lead to the production of goods and services that are primarily intended for sale or are sold on the market. Non-market activities are those activities that lead to the production of goods primarily for household final consumption. Non-market economic activities include, for example, bottling, dressmaking and tailoring, and the production of butter, cheese, or flour for the household’s own consumption. Non-market activities are typically excluded from current child labor surveys altogether or are not measured in enough detail to enable their full inclusion in an estimate of economic activity. For these reasons, the statistic on working children presented in this report generally represents children involved in market activities.

In analyzing the data from the above-mentioned surveys, UCW attempted to apply a standard definition of children’s work. Although UNICEF MICS and ILO SIMPOC reports, for example, each use a different definition of work (MICS survey reports include household chores in their definition of work while SIMPOC reports do not), to the extent possible UCW applied a common definition of work to the micro-data described. To date, this has resulted in the individual analysis of more than 75 data sets.

While every attempt was made to present a standardized child work statistic, there are differences across surveys that have the potential to affect the comparability of statistics across countries. Some of these differences are explained in greater detail here but in general include differing age groups, questionnaire content and wording, purpose of the survey, sample design, non-sampling errors, and year of data collection.

In general, data are presented for children 5 to 14, but some of the profiles present a work statistic for children 6 to 14, 7 to 14, or 10 to 14 depending on the age categories used in the original survey. The wording of work-related questions may also impact results. For example, the question on work in these surveys usually refers to work in the past 7 days; however, one survey (Argentina) refers to work activities in the past twelve months and is therefore likely to capture a higher proportion of working children than surveys with 7 day time frames. The purpose of the survey—whether the survey is designed specifically to measure children’s work and child labor (SIMPOC surveys) or to measure the impact of poverty reduction programs (World Bank’s LSMS)—may affect estimates of children’s work. In addition, sample design may impact survey results. For example, children’s work is often geographically clustered and SIMPOC surveys are designed to capture children’s work in such geographic areas. As a result, estimates of working children based on SIMPOC data are typically higher when compared to estimates based on LSMS surveys, which do not use the same sample design.¹¹ The ILO and UCW continue to investigate the effects of these survey differences on estimates of children’s work.

⁹ L. Guarcello, S. Lyon, F.C. Rosati, and C. Valdivia, *Towards statistical standards for children’s non economic work: A discussion based on household survey data*, UCW project, Rome, 2005.

¹⁰ ILO, *Current International Recommendations on Labour Statistics: 2000 Edition*, Geneva, 2000.

¹¹ ILO-IPEC, *Every Child Counts: New Global Estimates on Child Labour*, Geneva, April 2002, 38. See also A.R. Ritualo, C. Castro, and S. Gormly, "Measuring Child Labor: Implications for Policy and Program Design."

When such information is available, the report also provides the percentage of boys and girls reported as working as well as the industry in which children reportedly work. For some surveys, industry of work was not reported by the entire sample of working children. Therefore, the distribution of children working by industry, i.e., agriculture, service, and manufacturing, represents children with non-missing data for industry of work.

Gross Primary Enrollment Ratio

The gross primary enrollment ratio is the enrollment of primary students, regardless of age, expressed as a percentage of the total primary school-age population. The gross primary enrollment ratio describes the capacity of an education system to enroll students of primary school age. However, it does not mean that all children of official primary school age are actually enrolled. The gross primary enrollment ratio can be 100 percent or more due to the inclusion, in the numerator, of over-aged and under-aged pupils/students because of early or late entrants and grade repetition. In many countries, the official primary school-age group is 6 to 11 years. The differences in national systems of education and duration of schooling should be considered when comparing the ratios. Data are taken from UNESCO's Institute for Statistics.¹²

Net Primary Enrollment Ratio

The net primary enrollment ratio is the enrollment of primary students of the official primary school age expressed as a percentage of the primary school-age population. A high net primary enrollment ratio denotes a high degree of participation of the official school-age population. When compared with the gross primary enrollment ratio, the difference between the two ratios highlights the incidence of under-aged and over-aged enrollment. A net primary enrollment ratio below 100 percent provides a measure of the proportion of children not enrolled at the specified level of education. However, since some of these children could be enrolled at other levels of education, this difference should in no way be considered as an indication of the percentage of students not enrolled. Data are taken from UNESCO's Institute for Statistics. The Institute collects this and other education data for more than 200 countries.¹³

Percent of Children Attending School

The percent of children attending school is the share of all children within a specified age group that reported attending school. The UCW project data described in the Data Sources and Definitions Section under "Working Children" are used to develop country specific school attendance statistics. In general the age group for which attendance statistics are calculated is for children ages 5 to 14. In some cases, however, different age categories are used usually ranging from 6 to 14 or 7 to 14.

¹² UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Glossary: Gross enrolment rate*, [online] [cited February 6, 2006]; available from [http://www.uis.unesco.org/glossary/Term.aspx?name=Gross%20enrolment%20ratio%20\(GER\)&lang=en](http://www.uis.unesco.org/glossary/Term.aspx?name=Gross%20enrolment%20ratio%20(GER)&lang=en)

¹³ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Glossary: Net enrolment rate*, [online] [cited February 6, 2006]; available from <http://www.uis.unesco.org/glossary/Term.aspx?name=Net%20enrolment%20rate&lang=en>.

Survival Rate to Grade Five

The survival rate to grade five is the percentage of a cohort of pupils (or students) enrolled in the first grade of a given level or cycle of education in a given school-year who are expected to reach grade five. The survival rates are calculated on the basis of the reconstructed cohort method, which uses data on enrollment and repeaters for 2 consecutive years. The survival rate measures the ability of an education system to retain children in school and keep them from dropping out. The survival rate to grade five of primary school is of particular interest since this is commonly considered as a prerequisite to sustainable literacy. Data are taken from UNESCO's Institute for Statistics.¹⁴

¹⁴ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Glossary: Survival rates by grade*, [online] [cited February 6, 2006]; available from <http://www.uis.unesco.org/glossary/Term.aspx?name=Survival%20rates%20by%20grade&lang=en>

Glossary of Terms

Basic Education

Basic education comprises both formal schooling (primary and sometimes lower secondary) as well as a wide variety of non-formal and informal public and private educational activities offered to meet the defined basic learning needs of groups of people of all ages.

Source: UNESCO, *Education for All: Year 2000 Assessment: Glossary* [CD-ROM], Paris, 2001.

Bonded Labor

Bonded labor or debt bondage is “the status or condition arising from a pledge by a debtor of his personal services or those of a person under his control as security for a debt if the value of those services as reasonably assessed is not applied towards the liquidation of the debt or the length and nature of those services are not respectively limited and defined,” as defined in the UN Supplementary Convention on the Abolition of Slavery, the Slave Trade, and Institutions and Practices Similar to Slavery (1956).

Bonded labor typically occurs when a person who needs a loan and has no security to offer pledges his/her labor, or that of someone under his/her control, as a security for a loan. In some cases, the interest on the loan may be so high that it cannot be paid. In others, it may be deemed that the bonded individual’s work repays the interest on the loan but not the principal. Thus, the loan is inherited and perpetuated, and becomes an inter-generational debt.

Bonded labor is identified as one of the worst forms of child labor in ILO Convention 182.

Source: United Nations, *Supplementary Convention on the Abolition of Slavery, the Slave Trade, and Institutions and Practices Similar to Slavery*, (September 7, 1956); available from <http://www.ilo.org/public/english/comp/child/standards/supcons.htm>. See also U.S. Department of Labor, *By the Sweat and Toil of Children, Vol. I: The Use of Child Labor in U.S. Manufactured and Mined Imports* (Washington, D.C.: USDOL, 1994), 18. See also ILO-IPEC. *Child Labour: A Textbook for University Students, Appendix 2: Glossary*, 287. (Geneva: International Labour Office, 2004). See also ILO Convention No. 182, *Worst Forms of Child Labor*, (June 17, 1999); available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/convdisp2.htm>.

Child

A person less than 18 years of age.

Source: ILO Convention No. 182, *Worst Forms of Child Labour* (1999); available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/convdisp2.htm>.

Child Domestic Servants

Child domestic servants, also referred to as child domestic workers or domestics, are children who work in other people's households doing domestic chores, caring for children, and running errands, among other tasks. Child domestics sometimes have live-in arrangements, whereby they live in their employer's household and work full-time in exchange for room, board, care, and sometimes remuneration. Child domestic service is mainly done by young girls, who are often subjected to sexual, physical and verbal abuse.

Source: UNICEF, "Child Domestic Work," *Innocenti Digest* 5 (1999), 2. See also ILO-IPEC, *Child Labour: A Textbook for University Students*, Appendix 2: Glossary, 287, (Geneva: International Labour Office, 2004).

Child Labor Education Initiative

From FY 2001 to FY 2006, the U.S. Congress appropriated USD 205 million to USDOL for a Child Labor Education Initiative (EI) to support international efforts to eliminate child labor through programs that will improve access to basic education in international areas with a high rate of abusive and exploitative child labor. In addition, the Education Initiative has four goals:

- Raise awareness of the importance of education for all children and mobilize a wide array of actors to improve and expand education infrastructures;
- Strengthen formal and transitional education systems that encourage working children and those at risk of working to attend school;
- Strengthen national institutions and policies on education and child labor; and
- Ensure the long-term sustainability of these efforts.

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, *Child Labor Education Initiative (EI)*, [online]; available from: <http://www.dol.gov/ilab/programs/iclp/education/main.htm>.

Commercial Farms

Commercial farms are large-scale agricultural holdings that produce for largely commercial purposes. For the purposes of this report, the term, *commercial farms*, encompasses both farms and plantations, which are defined as agricultural holdings that produce commodities exclusively for export. Commercial farms generally pay workers by either the weight or the quantity of the product collected. To ensure that this minimal amount is met, or to maximize earnings, children may work alongside their parents, as part of a family unit. Children may also be hired as full-time wage-laborers, although they usually perform the same work as adult workers, but are paid one-half to one-third what is paid to adults doing comparable work. Workdays can be extremely long, and safety and health risks include exposure to dangerous chemical fertilizers or pesticides, poisonous insects or reptiles, and unsafe hygienic conditions and drinking water.

ILO Convention 138 prohibits the use of child labor on "plantation and other agricultural undertakings mainly producing for commercial purposes, but excluding family and small-scale holdings producing for local consumption and not regularly employing hired workers."

The line between “commercial” agriculture and “production for local consumption,” however, is frequently blurred.

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, *By the Sweat and Toil of Children, Vol. II: The Use of Child Labor in U.S. Agricultural Imports and Forced and Bonded Child Labor* (Washington, D.C.: USDOL, 1995), 2-4, 10. See also ILO Convention No. 138, *Minimum Age for Admission to Employment* (1973); available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/convdisp2.htm>.

Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children

Commercial sexual exploitation of children (CSEC) is the inducement or coercion of a child to engage in any unlawful sexual activity; the exploitive use of children in prostitution or other unlawful sexual practices; or the exploitive use of children in pornographic performances and materials.

The exact nature of the exploitation differs from one country to another. CSEC includes so-called “sex tourism” in which adults procure the services of children for prostitution or pornography; the exploitation of children by pimps or other criminal elements who offer “protection” to children (often children living on the streets) in return for their work in the sex trade; trafficking of children across borders to fuel prostitution or pedophilia rings; or the use of domestic servants, refugee children, or child soldiers for sexual purposes.

ILO Convention 182 prohibits the sale and trafficking of children, and the use, procuring or offering of a child for prostitution, for the production of pornography, or for pornographic performances.

Source: ECPAT International, *CSEC Definitions*, available from <http://www.ecpat.net/eng/CSEC/definitions/csec.htm>. See also *UN Convention on the Rights of the Child*, Article 34, available from <http://www.unhcr.ch/html/menu3/b/k2crc.htm>. See also ILO Convention No. 182, *Worst Forms of Child Labor* (June 17, 1999); available from <http://www.ilo.org/public/english/standards/ipecc/ratification/convention/text.htm>.

Compulsory Education

Compulsory education refers to the number of years or the age-span during which children and youth are legally obliged to attend school.

Source: UNESCO, *Education for All: Year 2000 Assessment: Glossary* [CD-ROM], Paris, 2001.

Conditional Worst Forms of Child Labor

Conditional worst forms refer to activities that can only be determined to be “worst forms” by relevant national authorities. Article 3 section (d) of ILO Convention 182 provides a general description of these potentially hazardous forms of labor, and Article 4 makes clear that such work should be defined by national laws. Some of these hazardous forms could constitute acceptable forms of work, if certain conditions were changed. Examples include work with dangerous tools or chemicals or work for long hours or at night.

Source: International Labour Organization, *Child Labour: A Textbook for University Students* (Geneva: International Labour Organization, 2004), 46-48; available from http://www.ilo.org/public/english/standards/ipecc/publ/download/pol_textbook_2004.pdf.

Education for All

In 1990, delegates from more than 155 countries convened in Jomtien, Thailand, to create strategies for addressing the issues of education, literacy, and poverty reduction. Using the Universal Declaration of Human Rights as a basis for their work, participants established a set of goals to provide all children, especially girls, with the right to an education and to improve adult literacy around the world. The result was “The World Declaration on Education for All (EFA).” This declaration called for countries, by the end of the decade, to meet the basic learning needs of all children and adults; provide universal access to education for all; create equity in education for women and other underserved groups; focus on actual learning acquisition; broaden the types of educational opportunities available to people; and create better learning environments for students. To achieve these goals, participating countries were requested to create Action Plans that detail how they were going to meet the goals of the Jomtien declaration. By 2000, basic education in more than 180 countries had been evaluated as part of the EFA 2000 Assessment.

In April 2000, delegates gathered again for the World Education Forum in Dakar, Senegal, where the results of the assessment were released. After reviewing the data gathered, it was clear that much more progress would be needed to achieve EFA. These delegates, from 164 countries, adopted the Dakar Framework for Action and renewed and strengthened their commitment to the achievement of quality basic education for all by the year 2015. The World Education Forum adopted six major goals for education to be achieved within 15 years, including the attainment of Universal Primary Education and gender equality; improving literacy and educational quality; and increasing life-skills and early childhood education programs. However, the gender goal was deemed to be particularly urgent, thus requiring the achievement of parity in enrollment for girls and boys at primary and secondary levels by 2005, and of full equality throughout education by 2015.

Source: UNESCO, *The World Conference on Education for All*, Jomtien, Thailand (March 5-9, 1990), [conference proceedings]; available from http://www.unesco.org/education/efa/ed_for_all/background/world_conference_jomtien.shtml. See also UNESCO, *World Education Forum*, Dakar, Senegal (April 2000), [conference proceedings]; available from http://www.unesco.org/education/efa/wef_2000/index.shtml. See also UNESCO, *Education for All: Meeting Our Collective Commitments*, Text adopted by the World Education Forum Dakar, Senegal, April 26-28, 2000, available from http://www.unesco.org/education/efa/ed_for_all/dakfram_eng.shtml.

Forced Labor

Forced labor is defined in ILO Convention No. 29 as “all work or service which is exacted from any person under the menace of any penalty and for which the said person has not offered himself voluntarily.” In practice, it is the enslavement of workers through the threat or use of coercion, and it is primarily found among the most economically vulnerable members of society.

Forced or compulsory labor is identified as one of the worst forms of child labor in ILO Convention 182.

Source: ILO Convention No. 29, *Forced Labour* (1930); available from <http://www.ilo.org/public/english/dialogue/actrav/enviro/backgrnd/ilohrcon.htm>. See also ILO Convention No. 182, *Worst Forms of Child Labour* (1999); available from <http://www.ilo.org/public/english/standards/ipecc/ratification/convention/text.htm>.

Formal Education

The system of formalized transmission of knowledge and values operating within a given society, usually provided through state-sponsored schools.

Source: ILO-IPEC, *Child Labour: A Textbook for University Students, Appendix 2: Glossary*, 288. (Geneva: International Labour Office, 2004).

ILO Convention 138: Minimum Age for Admission to Employment

ILO Convention 138, adopted in 1973 and ratified by 148 nations, serves as the principal ILO standard on child labor. Under Article 2(3) of ILO Convention 138, Minimum Age for Admission to Employment, the minimum age of admission into employment or work in any occupation “shall not be less than the age of completion of compulsory schooling, and, in any case, shall not be less than fifteen.” Countries whose economy and educational facilities are insufficiently developed may initially specify a minimum legal working age of 14 when ratifying the convention. Additionally, under article 7(1), “National laws or regulations may permit the employment or work of persons 13 to 15 years of age on light work which is – (a) not likely to be harmful to their health or development; and (b) not such as to prejudice their attendance at school, their participation in vocational orientation or training programmes approved by the competent authority or their capacity to benefit from the instruction received.” Countries that specify a minimum legal working age of 14 may permit light work for persons 12 to 14 years.

Source: ILO Convention No. 138, *Minimum Age for Admission to Employment* (1973); available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/convdisp2.htm>. Ratifications are current as of May 2007.

ILO Convention 182: Worst Forms of Child Labor

ILO Convention 182 was adopted in 1999 and has been ratified by 163 nations. It commits ratifying nations to take immediate action to secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labor. Under Article 3 of the convention, the worst forms of child labor comprise:

(a) all forms of slavery or practices similar to slavery, such as the sale and trafficking of children, debt bondage and serfdom and forced or compulsory labor, including forced or compulsory recruitment of children for use in armed conflict;

- (b) the use, procuring or offering of a child for prostitution, for the production of pornography or for pornographic purposes;
- (c) the use, procuring or offering of a child for illicit activities, in particular for the production and trafficking of drugs as defined in the relevant international treaties;
- (d) work which, by its nature or the circumstances in which it is carried out, is likely to harm the health, safety or morals of children.

(See definitions of “Unconditional Worst Forms” and “Conditional Worst Forms” in this glossary for further information on the above categories.) Among other actions, ILO Convention 182 requires ratifying nations to: remove children from abusive child labor and provide them with rehabilitation, social reintegration, access to free basic education and vocational training; consult with employer and worker organizations to create appropriate mechanisms to monitor implementation of the Convention; take into account the special vulnerability of girls; and provide assistance and/or cooperate with efforts of other members to implement the Convention.

Source: ILO Convention No. 182, *Worst Forms of Child Labour* (1999); available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/convdisp2.htm>. Ratifications are current as of May 2007.

ILO-IPEC: International Program on the Elimination of Child Labor

In 1992, the ILO created IPEC to work towards the progressive elimination of child labor by strengthening national capacities to address child labor problems, and by creating a worldwide movement to combat it. Although IPEC aims to address all forms of child labor, its focus is on the elimination of the worst forms of child labor.

Countries participating in IPEC usually sign an MOU outlining the development and implementation of IPEC activities and the efforts to be undertaken by governments to progressively eradicate child labor. IPEC National Program Steering Committees are then established with the participation of governments, industry and labor representatives, and experienced NGOs. IPEC provides technical assistance to governments, but most of the direct action programs for children are carried out by local NGOs and workers’ and employers’ organizations. IPEC activities include awareness-raising about child labor problems; capacity building for government agencies and statistical organizations; advice and support for direct action projects to withdraw working children from the workplace; and assistance to governments in drawing up national policies and legislation.

From fiscal year 1995 to fiscal year 2006, the U.S. Congress appropriated approximately USD 330 million for ILO-IPEC projects.

Source: ILO-IPEC, *What is IPEC: IPEC at a Glance*; available from <http://www.ilo.org/public/english/standards/ipecc/about/implementation/ipecc.htm>. See also ILO, *IPEC Action Against Child Labour: Highlights 2006*, Geneva, February 2007, 10, 29; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ipecc/prod/eng/20070228_Implementationreport_en_Web.pdf. See also *IPEC’s Strategy to Eliminate Child Labour*; available from http://www.ilo.org/public/english/standards/ipecc/publ/download/factsheets/fs_ipeccstrategy_0303.pdf. See also U.S. Department of Labor, *International Program on the Elimination of Child Labor* [online]; available from <http://www.dol.gov/ilab/programs/iclp/iloipecc/main.htm>.

ILO-IPEC Associated Countries

ILO-IPEC associated countries are those in which ILO-IPEC has initiated child labor projects with government permission, but which have not yet signed a formal Memorandum of Understanding (see also definitions for “ILO-IPEC Program Countries” and “ILO-IPEC”). As of 2006, there were 27 countries associated with ILO-IPEC.

Source: ILO, *IPEC Action Against Child Labour: Highlights 2006*, Geneva, February 2007, 29; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ipec/prod/eng/20070228_Implementationreport_en_Web.pdf.

ILO-IPEC Participating Countries

ILO-IPEC participating countries are countries that have signed an MOU with IPEC, thereby committing to cooperate with ILO-IPEC on the implementation of child labor projects in their countries. As of 2006, there were 61 ILO-IPEC participating countries.

Source: ILO, *IPEC Action Against Child Labour: Highlights 2006*, Geneva, February 2007, 29; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ipec/prod/eng/20070228_Implementationreport_en_Web.pdf.

Informal Sector

Definitions of the informal sector vary widely. In general, the informal sector refers to areas of economic activity that are largely unregulated and not subject to labor legislation. A more precise description of the informal sector by the ILO suggests “these units typically operate at a low level of organization, with little or no division between labor and capital as factors of production and on a small scale.” Furthermore, where labor relations exist, interactions are not based on contracts or formal arrangements; rather they are grounded on casual employment, kinship, and personal or social relations. Because employers in the informal sector are not accountable for complying with occupational safety measures, children who work in “hazardous” or “ultra-hazardous” settings likely run the risk of injury without any social protections. For this reason, households may be reluctant to indicate work by children in the informal sector, which can increase the probability of underreporting. In addition, because businesses in the informal sector are not usually included in official statistics, children working in informal sector enterprises do not show up in labor force activity rates.

Source: ILO, “Informal Sector: Who are they?” [online] 2000; available from <http://www.ilo.org/public/english/employment/skills/informal/who.htm>. See also ILO, proceedings of the 15th International Conference of Labor Statisticians, (Geneva, Switzerland, January 19-28, 1993). See also U.S. Department of Labor, *By the Sweat and Toil of Children, Vol. I: The Use of Child Labor in U.S. Manufactured and Mined Imports* (Washington, D.C.: USDOL, 1994), 2.

Light Work

This report uses the definition of light work as established in ILO Convention 138, Minimum Age for Admission to Employment. Under article 7(1) of the convention, “National laws or regulations may permit the employment or work of persons 13 to 15 years of age on light work

which is – (a) not likely to be harmful to their health or development; and (b) not such as to prejudice their attendance at school, their participation in vocational orientation or training programmes approved by the competent authority or their capacity to benefit from the instruction received.” Countries that have specified a minimum legal working age of 14 may permit the employment or work of persons 12 to 14 years of age on light work as defined in article 7(1).

Source: ILO Convention No. 138, *Minimum Age for Employment* (1973), Article 3; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/convdisp2.htm>.

Minimum Age of Work

The minimum age at which a child can enter into work. ILO Convention 138 states that the minimum age for admission to employment should not be less than the age of completion of compulsory schooling and should not be less than 15 (14 for developing countries).

Source: ILO-IPEC, *Child Labour: A Textbook for University Students, Appendix 2: Glossary*, 290. (Geneva: International Labour Office, 2004).

Non-formal Education

Any organized educational activity outside the established formal school system – whether operating separately or as an important feature of some broader activity – that is intended to serve identifiable learning objectives. Non-formal or transitional education programs can enable former child workers to “catch up” or be “mainstreamed” with their peers who began their schooling at the appropriate age. However, there should always be a strong link between such rehabilitation programs and the formal education system, since the latter will ensure opportunities for further education and employment.

Source: ILO-IPEC, *Child Labour: A Textbook for University Students, Appendix 2: Glossary*, 290. (Geneva: International Labour Office, 2004).

Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper

A Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper is a document written by the government of a developing country with the participation of civil society to serve as the basis for concessional lending from the World Bank and the IMF, as well as debt relief under the World Bank’s Highly Indebted Poor Countries Initiative. A PRSP should measure poverty in the country, identify goals for reducing poverty, and create a spending and policy program for reaching those goals. A PRSP should also ensure that a country’s macroeconomic, structural, and social policies are consistent with the objectives of poverty reduction and social development. A new PRSP must be written every three years in order to continue receiving assistance from International Financial Institutions such as the World Bank.

Source: World Bank, *Overview of Poverty Reduction Strategies*, [online]; available from <http://www.worldbank.org/poverty/strategies/overview.htm>.

Primary Education

Primary education, sometimes called elementary education, refers to school usually beginning at 5 or 7 years of age and covering about six years of full-time schooling. In countries with compulsory education laws, primary education generally constitutes the first (and sometimes only) cycle of compulsory education.

Source: UNESCO, *Education for All: Year 2000 Assessment: Glossary* [CD-ROM], Paris, 2001.

Ratification

Ratification is a serious undertaking by a State formally accepting the terms of an international agreement, thereby becoming legally bound to apply it. Other ways of becoming bound to an international agreement include acceptance, approval, accession, signature, or an exchange of notes.

In order to ratify an agreement, a country must, if necessary, adopt new laws and regulations or modify the existing legislation and practice to support the agreement, and formally deposit the instruments of ratification with the appropriate depositary. (In the case of ILO Conventions, ratifications must be registered with the Director-General of the ILO's International Labor Office.)

For certain international agreements that require ratification, signing an agreement or enacting an agreement into domestic law by Congress, or a similar state organ, does not mean that the international agreement has been ratified. Signing an international agreement serves as a preliminary endorsement, albeit a formality, as signatories are not bound by the terms of the international agreement or in any way committed to proceed to the final step of ratification. However, a signatory is obliged to refrain from acts, which would defeat the object and purpose of the international agreement unless it makes its intention not to become a party to the international agreement clear. Similarly, appropriate state entities may signal approval of an international agreement, but that is only one of the requisite steps on the path toward official ratification. The final step requires that the instruments of ratification be deposited with the depositary.

In the case of ILO conventions, ILO procedures provide the option to ratify or not ratify a convention, but do not include the option to sign a convention as a preliminary endorsement. Generally, an ILO convention comes into force in a ratifying country 12 months after the government has deposited the requisite instrument of ratification. This grace period provides ILO members time to enact or modify legislation to comply with the convention before it comes into force.

Source: ILO, "Glossary of Terms Related to International Labor Standards," [online]; available from <http://www.ilo.org/public/english/standards/norm/sources/glossry.htm>. See also UNICEF, *The Process: From Signature to Ratification* [online]; available from <http://www.unicef.org/crc/process.htm>. See also ILO Convention No. 138: *Minimum Age for Admission to Employment*, Article 11; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/convdisp2.htm>. See also ILO Convention No. 182: *Worst Forms of Child Labor*, Article 9; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/convdisp2.htm>.

Timebound Program

Timebound Programs are particular child labor interventions implemented by ILO-IPEC in collaboration with governments that aim to prevent and eliminate all incidences of the worst forms of child labor in a country within a defined period. The objective is to eradicate these forms of child labor within a period of 5-10 years, depending on the magnitude and complexity of child labor in each country. Since the start of this initiative in 2001, Timebound Programs have been initiated in 23 countries.

Source: ILO-IPEC, Eliminating the Worst Forms of Child Labor: An Integrated and Time-Bound Approach, A Guide for Governments, Employers, Workers, Donors, and other Stakeholders, Geneva, April 2001, 3. See also ILO, IPEC Action Against Child Labour: Highlights 2006, Geneva, February 2007; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ippec/prod/eng/20070228_Implementationreport_en_Web.pdf.

Trafficking of Children

The Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children provides a commonly accepted definition of trafficking. It states: “(a) ‘trafficking in persons’ shall mean the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring, or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation. Exploitation shall include, at a minimum, the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labor or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs...” It goes on to state: “(c) the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of a child for the purpose of exploitation shall be considered ‘trafficking in persons’ even if this does not involve any of the means set forth in subparagraph (a) of this article....”

The trafficking of children is identified as a worst form of child labor in ILO Convention 182.

Source: United Nations, Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, Supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, 2000; available at <http://untreaty.un.org/English/notpubl/18-12-a.E.doc>. See also ILO Convention No. 182: Worst Forms of Child Labor (1999); available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/convdisp2.htm>.

Unconditional Worst Forms of Child Labor

Unconditional worst forms of child labor refer to activities that constitute worst forms by definition. Unconditional worst forms of child labor are generally illegal and objectionable forms of work, even for adults. They include slavery, forced or compulsory labor, trafficking, debt bondage, the forced recruitment of children into armed conflict, commercial sexual exploitation, and involvement in illicit activities. These forms have been identified as worst forms of child labor by the international community through the ratification of ILO Convention 182.

Source: International Labour Organization, *Child Labour: A Textbook for University Students* (Geneva: International Labour Organization, 2004), 46-48; available from http://www.ilo.org/public/english/standards/ipec/publ/download/pol_textbook_2004.pdf.

Worst Forms of Child Labor

See “ILO Convention 182: Worst Forms of Child Labor.”

COUNTRY PROFILES



Afghanistan

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Children in Afghanistan work as street vendors, shopkeepers, workshop assistants, blacksmiths, tailors, and domestic laborers. They also work in agriculture. In the cities, some children collect paper and scrap metal, shine shoes, and beg. Children have been arrested for drug trafficking in Afghanistan.²¹ Years of conflict have left many families with child-headed households, thus forcing the children to work.²²

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working:	Unavailable
Minimum age of work:	15 ¹⁵
Age to which education is compulsory:	Unavailable
Free public education:	Yes ¹⁶
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2002:	92% ¹⁷
Net primary enrollment rate:	Unavailable
Percent of children 5-14 attending school:	Unavailable
Percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	Unavailable
Ratified Convention 138:	No ¹⁸
Ratified Convention 182:	No ¹⁹
ILO-IPEC participating country:	No ²⁰

Afghanistan is a country of origin and transit for children trafficked to Iran, Pakistan, and the Gulf states for camel jockeying, forced begging, and commercial sexual exploitation.²³ Reports

¹⁵ U.S. Embassy- Kabul, *reporting*, September 14, 2005.

¹⁶ Government of Afghanistan, *Constitution of Afghanistan*, (January 4, 2004), Article 43; available from http://www.oefre.unibe.ch/law/icl/af00000_.html. See also U.S. Department of State, "Afghanistan," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78868.htm>. See also Anita Anastacio and Dawn Stallard, *Report Card: Progress on Compulsory Education, Grades 1-9*, The Human Rights Research and Advocacy Consortium, March 2004, 1; available from http://www.oxfamamerica.org/pdfs/afghan_education_report.pdf.

¹⁷ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary*, December 20 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

¹⁸ ILO, *List of Ratifications of International Labor Conventions, Minimum Age Convention, 1973*, February 5, 2007; available from <http://webfusion.ilo.org/public/db/standards/normes/appl/appl-byConvYear.cfm?hdroff=1&Lang=EN&conv=C138>.

¹⁹ ILO, *List of Ratifications of International Labor Conventions, Worst Forms of Child Labor Convention, 1999*, February 5, 2007; available from <http://webfusion.ilo.org/public/db/standards/normes/appl/appl-byConvYear.cfm?hdroff=1&Lang=EN&conv=C182>.

²⁰ ILO-IPEC, *IPEC Action Against Child Labor: Highlights 2006*, Geneva, October 2006, 29; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ippec/prod/eng/20061019_Implementationreport_eng_Web.pdf.

²¹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Afghanistan," Section 6d. See also Integrated Regional Information Networks, "Afghanistan: UNICEF Expresses Concern about Child Labour", IRINnews.org, [online], December 6, 2005 [cited October 22, 2006]; available from <http://www.irinnews.org/report.asp?ReportID=50528&SelectRegion=Asia&SelectCountry=AFGHANISTAN>.

²² A. B. Popal, *Child-Labor or Breadwinner*, UN-Habitat, October 8, 2004; available from <http://www.fukuoka.unhabitat.org/project/voice.php?sn=8&cn=2&la=1>.

indicate that children from the south of Afghanistan have been trafficked to Pakistan for factory work.²⁴ Children, especially boys, have been the primary victims of external trafficking.²⁵ Internal trafficking of children occurs for begging, debt bondage in the carpet and brick industries, and commercial sexual exploitation.²⁶ The U.S. Department of State reports that there have been unconfirmed accounts of children under 18 providing false identification papers in order to join the Afghan National Army and police forces.²⁷ A lack of access to conflict areas has made it difficult to confirm the continued use of child soldiers by armed groups; however, media reports indicate that the practice may still exist.²⁸

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law prohibits employment of children under 15, although they may be employed at 14 and may be hired as trainees with parental approval at 13. Children 16 to 18 may only work 35 hours per week, and children under 16 are only permitted to work 30 hours per week. The law does not permit children to be engaged in underground work or in conditions that are physically arduous or harmful to their health.²⁹ The Constitution prohibits forced labor, including that of children.³⁰ There is no evidence of effective enforcement of child labor laws in Afghanistan.³¹ According to the U.S. Department of State, the government lacks the capacity to enforce child labor laws.³²

Until new laws are enacted, trafficking crimes may be prosecuted under laws dealing with kidnapping, rape, forced labor, transportation of minors, child endangerment, and hostage taking. Prison sentences for such offenses are longer for cases involving minors and girls.³³ The government reported the arrest of 40 to 70 child traffickers in 2005, the most recent date for which such information is available. Fifteen persons were convicted and seven received death sentences.³⁴ The minimum age for recruitment into the armed forces is 18.³⁵

²³ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Afghanistan," Section 5. See also U.S. Department of State, "Afghanistan (Tier 2)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/>.

²⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Afghanistan," Section 5.

²⁵ Ibid.

²⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Afghanistan." See also U.S. Embassy- Kabul, *reporting, September 14, 2005*. See also IOM, *Trafficking in Persons- An Analysis of Afghanistan*, January 2004, 46, 51-61. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Afghanistan," Section 5.

²⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Afghanistan," Section 5.

²⁸ UNICEF Afghanistan Official, email communication to USDOL official, May 18, 2007. See also Declan Walsh, "Global Outcry at Taliban's Use of Boy in Filmed Beheading," *The Guardian*, April 25, 2007; available from <http://www.guardian.co.uk/afghanistan/story/0,,2064910,00.html>. See also Barbara Miller, "UNICEF Condemns Taliban's Use of Child Soldiers", *The World Today*, [online], April 26, 2007 [cited May 16, 2007]; available from <http://www.abc.net.au/worldtoday/content/2007/s1907231.htm>

²⁹ U.S. Embassy- Kabul, *reporting, September 14, 2005*.

³⁰ Government of Afghanistan, *Constitution of Afghanistan*, Article 49.

³¹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Afghanistan," Section 6d.

³² U.S. Embassy- Kabul, *reporting, September 14, 2005*.

³³ U.S. Embassy- Kabul, *reporting, March 12, 2004*.

³⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Afghanistan."

³⁵ UNICEF, *Demobilization of Child Soldier and Socio-Economic Reintegration of War-affected Young People in Afghanistan*, technical progress report, February 28, 2007.

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Government of Afghanistan is working to address child soldiering and child trafficking.³⁶ In collaboration with UNICEF, the government developed a National Plan of Action to Combat Child Trafficking that sets goals and timelines for reducing the number of children vulnerable to trafficking. The government also established a National Counter-Trafficking Commission, which includes representatives of the Ministries of Labor and Social Affairs, Foreign Affairs, Justice, Interior, and Women's Affairs, as well as representatives of UNICEF and other international and national NGOs.³⁷ In 2005, the most recent year for which such information is available, 317 children who had been trafficked to Saudi Arabia, Pakistan, Oman, United Arab Emirates, and Zambia were repatriated. The Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs, together with UNICEF, established a center to assist the children.³⁸

The Government of Afghanistan participates in a USDOL-supported USD 5.27 million 4-year project (2003-2007) in which UNICEF works to demobilize and reintegrate former child soldiers and war-affected youth. The project aims to demobilize and provide community-based rehabilitative, psychosocial, and non-formal education services to 7,750 former child soldiers and 7,000 war-affected children.³⁹

³⁶ U.S. Embassy- Kabul, *reporting*, March 12, 2004.

³⁷ U.S. Embassy- Kabul, *reporting*, September 14, 2005. See also U.S. Department of State, "Afghanistan (Tier 2)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, DC, 2006, Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/>.

³⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Afghanistan," Section 5.

³⁹ Vera Chrobok, *Demobilizing and Reintegrating Afghanistan's Young Soldiers: A Review and Assessment of Program Planning and Implementation*, Bonn International Center for Conversion, Bonn, 2005, 39; available from <http://www.bicc.de/publications/papers/paper42/paper42.pdf>. See also UNICEF, *Demobilization of Child Soldiers and Socio-Economic Reintegration of War-affected Young People in Afghanistan*, technical progress report, September 2005, 5. See also UNICEF, *Demobilization of Child Soldiers*, technical progress report, 5. See also Integrated Regional Information Service, *Afghanistan: UNICEF Helps Demobilize 4,000 Child Soldiers*, December 16, 2004; available from <http://www.irinnews.org/print.asp?ReportID=44706>. See also USDOL, *Demobilization of Child Soldiers and Socio-economic Reintegration of War-affected Young People in Afghanistan*, ILAB Technical Cooperation Project Summary, Washington, DC.

Albania

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2000, approximately 41.1 percent of boys and 31.8 percent of girls ages 7 to 14 were working in Albania.⁵⁰ The Construction Workers' Trade Union states that many children under 16 work in construction. It also states that children 16 and 17 are working in chromium mines in Bater, Bulqiza, Borje, and Klos.⁵¹

Children can be found laboring as farmers, shepherds, shoe cleaners, drug runners, car washers, and textile factory workers.⁵² Children, especially from the Roma community, are forced to work on the streets in cities as beggars and vendors.⁵³ The majority of children working on the streets are boys.⁵⁴

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 7-14 estimated as working in 2000:	36.6 ⁴⁰
Minimum age for admission to work:	14 ⁴¹
Age to which education is compulsory:	16 ⁴²
Free public education:	Yes ⁴³
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2002:	104% ⁴⁴
Net primary enrollment rate in 2002:	95% ⁴⁵
Percent of children 7-14 attending school in 2000:	50.9% ⁴⁶
Percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	Unavailable
Ratified Convention 138:	2/16/1998 ⁴⁷
Ratified Convention 182:	8/02/2001 ⁴⁸
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Yes ⁴⁹

⁴⁰ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, October 7, 2005.

⁴¹ U.S. Department of State, "Albania," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 6d; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78797.htm>.

⁴² *Ibid.*, Section 5. See also U.S. Embassy- Tirana, *reporting*, December 14, 2006.

⁴³ Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Summary Record of the 104th Meeting: Albania*, March 31, 2005, paras. 57 and 59; available from <http://www.unhcr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/0/ecf0eee2031659f0c1256f8f003e8e28?Opendocument>. See also U.S. Embassy- Tirana, *reporting*, August 26, 2005. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Albania," Section 5.

⁴⁴ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross and Net Enrollment Ratios, Primary*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

⁴⁵ *Ibid.*

⁴⁶ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

⁴⁷ ILO-IPEC, *Combating Trafficking in Children for Labor and Sexual Exploitation in the Balkans & Ukraine*, technical progress report, Geneva, January 31, 2007.

⁴⁸ *Ibid.*

⁴⁹ ILO-IPEC, *IPEC Action Against Child Labor: Highlights 2006*, Geneva, October 2006; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ippec/prod/eng/20061019_Implementationreport_eng_Web.pdf.

⁵⁰ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

⁵¹ PROTECT CEE, *Country Profile Albania*, [online] 2005 [cited October 19, 2006]; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ippec/prod/eng/2005_fs_albania.pdf.

⁵² U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Albania," Section 6d. See also U.S. Embassy- Tirana, *reporting*, August 26, 2005.

⁵³ U.S. Embassy- Tirana, *reporting*, December 14, 2006.

The trafficking of Albanian children as young as 6 years to Western Europe and within Albania for prostitution and other forms of labor remains a problem.⁵⁵ There is evidence of new trafficking routes to Kosovo and Slovenia to further points in Europe.⁵⁶ The U.S. Department of State reports that children are trafficked to Kosovo for sexual exploitation or begging.⁵⁷ Children are also trafficked to Italy and Greece to participate in organized begging rings and other forms of forced labor, including work in agriculture and construction.⁵⁸ The majority of children trafficked to Italy and Greece were boys between 11 and 16.⁵⁹ Children who are returned to the Albanian border from Greece are often at high risk of being re-trafficked,⁶⁰ although, according to a 2003 report, trafficking of Albanian children to Greece appears to be on a decline.⁶¹ Internal trafficking is reported to be rising,⁶² with increasing numbers of children in the capital of Tirana falling victim to prostitution and other forms of exploitation. Because of poverty and illiteracy, Roma children are especially vulnerable to exploitation.⁶³ Some children, especially Roma children and children residing in orphanages, are kidnapped or sold by family members to traffickers.⁶⁴

⁵⁴ PROTECT CEE, *Country Profile Albania*.

⁵⁵ ILO-IPEC, *Combating Trafficking in Children for Labour and Sexual Exploitation in the Balkans and Ukraine*, project document, Geneva, September 2003, 7. See also ILO-IPEC, *Rapid Assessment of Trafficking in Children for Labour and Sexual Exploitation in Albania, 2003*, Tirana, 2004, 26-27; available from http://www.ilo.org/public/english/standards/ipecc/publ/download/cee_albania_ra_2003.pdf. See also Children's Human Rights Center (CRCA), *Child Trafficking in Albania: A Comprehensive Report on Child Trafficking in Albania*, Tirana, July 2003, 16.

⁵⁶ U.S. Embassy- Tirana, *reporting, August 26, 2005*.

⁵⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Albania," Section 5.

⁵⁸ ILO-IPEC, *Rapid Assessment of Trafficking in Children*, 25. See also Daniel Renton, *Child Trafficking in Albania*, Save the Children Norway, March 2001, 44-45. See also UNICEF, *Profiting From Abuse: An Investigation into the Sexual Exploitation of our Children*, New York, 2001, 18 available from http://www.unicef.org/publications/pub_profiting_en.pdf. See also U.S. Department of State, "Albania (Tier 2)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/>.

⁵⁹ PROTECT CEE, *Country Profile Albania*.

⁶⁰ ILO-IPEC, *ILO-IPEC Child Trafficking Project, project document, 2003*, 8. See also Barbara Limanowska, *Trafficking in Human Beings in South Eastern Europe: Update on Situation and Response to Trafficking in Human Beings in Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Moldova, Serbia and Montenegro, Including the UN Administered Province of Kosovo, Romania*, November 2003, 39; available from http://www.osce.org/documents/odihr/2003/12/1645_en.pdf.

⁶¹ Terre des Hommes, *The Trafficking of Albanian Children in Greece*, Le Mont sur Lausanne, January 2003, 9-11. See also U.S. Embassy- Tirana, *reporting, August 26, 2005*. See also Barbara Limanowska, *Trafficking in Human Beings in South Eastern Europe. 2004 - Focus on Prevention in: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Moldova, Romania, Serbia and Montenegro, and the UN Administered Province of Kosovo*, March 2005, 101; available from <http://www.unicef.org/ceecis/Trafficking.Report.2005.pdf>.

⁶² PROTECT CEE, *Country Profile Albania*. See also U.S. Embassy- Tirana, *reporting, December 14, 2006*.

⁶³ U.S. Department of State, "Albania," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2005*, Washington, DC, March 8, 2006, Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2005/61633.htm>. See also U.S. Embassy- Tirana, *reporting, August 26, 2005*.

⁶⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Albania," Section 5.

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum age of employment at 14 years.⁶⁵ The law allows children 16 to 18 years to be employed only with permission of the Ministry of Labor. Children 14 to 16 also require permission to work during school holidays and vacations.⁶⁶ Night work is prohibited by children younger than 18 years, and their work is limited to 6 hours per day.⁶⁷ The law also permits fines for parents whose children fail to attend school during the compulsory education period of 9 years.⁶⁸ The law forbids forced labor by any person, except in cases of execution of a judicial decision, military service, or for service during state emergency or war.⁶⁹ The minimum age for voluntary military service is 18 years and 19 years for compulsory military service.⁷⁰

The law prohibits prostitution, and the penalty is more severe when a child is solicited.⁷¹ The law sets penalties for trafficking, including 15 to 20 years imprisonment for trafficking of minors.⁷² Albania has a witness protection law for trafficking victims and, during 2006, upgraded the witness protection unit to a Directorate for Witness Protection and Collaborators of Justice within the State Police.⁷³

The Labor Inspectorate within the Ministry of Labor is responsible for enforcing child labor laws as they pertain to registered businesses in the formal sector.⁷⁴ One hundred inspectors are employed, and workplaces are inspected once every 5 years on average. All inspectors have received child labor awareness training.⁷⁵ In 2006, a new law was passed granting the labor inspectors legal authorization to carry out inspections at informal worksites.⁷⁶ The Government of Albania has a full-time national coordinator for anti-trafficking efforts with a staff of five.⁷⁷ The government has a specialized asset forfeiture unit that has received judgments of forfeiture in trafficking cases.⁷⁸ According to the U.S. Department of State, there

⁶⁵ Ibid., Section 6d.

⁶⁶ U.S. Embassy- Tirana, *reporting*, December 14, 2006.

⁶⁷ Government of Albania, *Labor Code as Cited in United Nations Study on Violence Against Children 2004*, 6; available from <http://www.ohchr.org/english/bodies/CRC/docs/study/responses/Albania.pdf>.

⁶⁸ ILO-IPEC, *Trafficking and other Worst Forms of Child Labour in Central and Eastern Europe*, project document, Geneva, 2006, 32.

⁶⁹ *Albanian Constitution*, Chapter II, Article 26, and Chapter IV, Article 54(3); available from <http://www.ipls.org/services/constitution/const98/cp2.html>.

⁷⁰ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Albania," in *Child Soldiers Global Report*, London, 2004; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=885.

⁷¹ The Criminal Code as cited by Interpol. See Interpol, *Legislation of Interpol Member States on Sexual Offences Against Children- Albania*, [accessed October 22, 2006], Article 114; available from <http://www.interpol.int/Public/Children/SexualAbuse/NationalLaws/csaAlbania.asp>.

⁷² U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Albania," Section 5.

⁷³ Ibid. See also U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Albania." See also U.S. Embassy- Tirana, *email communication to USDOL official*, August 14, 2006.

⁷⁴ U.S. Embassy- Tirana, *reporting*, August 26, 2005.

⁷⁵ U.S. Embassy- Tirana, *reporting*, December 14, 2006.

⁷⁶ Ibid.

⁷⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Albania." See also U.S. Embassy- Tirana, *email communication to USDOL official*, August 14, 2006.

⁷⁸ Ibid.

have been reports that law enforcement officials were involved in trafficking-related corruption.⁷⁹

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

A number of national strategies, including the Strategies on Education and Social Services, have integrated child labor concerns.⁸⁰ The government has a National Strategy against Child Trafficking and the Protection of Child Victims of Trafficking.⁸¹ The Action Plan of the National Strategy to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings 2005-2007 includes a Child Trafficking Strategy.⁸² Issues concerning the trafficking of children have also been mainstreamed into the National Strategy for Social Services (2005-2010) as well as the UN Common Country Assessment and the Albania National Report towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals.⁸³ On May 29, 2006, the Albanian parliament ratified an agreement with the Government of Greece for the protection and assistance of child trafficking victims.⁸⁴ The Prime Minister issued Order no. 139 to establish regional committees against human trafficking in 12 prefectures on June 19, 2006. The committees coordinate anti-trafficking activities in the regions.⁸⁵

The government participated in a 3-year, USD 1.5 million USDOL-funded ILO-IPEC regional project to combat the trafficking of children for labor and sexual exploitation which ended January 2007.⁸⁶ The project withdrew 69 children and prevented 250 children from exploitive labor in Albania.⁸⁷ Project activities included distributing educational materials as well as training teachers and youth representatives on combating child labor in 12 regions. Youth clubs were established to assist children removed from exploitive situations to attend educational programs and vocational training.⁸⁸ Under the guidance of the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs, a program on prevention and monitoring of child labor in three cities

⁷⁹ Ibid.

⁸⁰ ILO-IPEC, *Combating Trafficking in Children for Labour and Sexual Exploitation in the Balkans and Ukraine*, technical progress report, March 2005, 2. See also Republic of Albania and National Committee on Women and Family, *National Strategy for Children, 5-year Plan*, UNICEF, Tirana, 2001, 15-16 [hard copy on file]; available from <http://www.unicef.org/albania/publications/nationalstrategy.pdf> [hard copy on file]. See also Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Concluding Observations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child: Albania*, March 31, 2005, Para. 11 and 12; available from <http://www.unhcr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/0/7d5e3444b12ac33dc1257018004dd14c?OpenDocument>.

⁸¹ ILO-IPEC, *Child Trafficking Project, technical progress report, March 2005*, 2. See also U.S. Embassy- Tirana, *reporting, August 26, 2005*.

⁸² ILO-IPEC, *Child Trafficking Project, technical progress report, March 2005*, 2. See also OSCE, *OSCE Presence in Albania*, [online] 2005 [cited October 22, 2006]; available from <http://www.osce.org/albania/13138.html>. See also U.S. Embassy- Tirana, *email communication to USDOL official, August 14, 2006*.

⁸³ ILO-IPEC, *Child Trafficking Project, technical progress report, March 2005*, 2. See also U.S. Embassy- Tirana, *reporting, August 26, 2005*.

⁸⁴ ILO-IPEC, *Combating Trafficking in Children for Labour and Sexual Exploitation in the Balkans & Ukraine*, technical progress report, Geneva, August 31, 2006, 3. See also U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report-2006: Albania."

⁸⁵ ILO-IPEC, *Balkans Child Trafficking, technical progress report, August 31, 2006*, 3.

⁸⁶ ILO-IPEC, *ILO-IPEC Child Trafficking Project, project document, 2003*.

⁸⁷ ILO-IPEC, *Balkans Child Trafficking, technical progress report, January 31, 2007*, 63.

⁸⁸ U.S. Embassy- Tirana, *reporting, August 26, 2005*.

involved partnerships between teachers, social workers, police, and labor inspectors to identify working children and remove them from work, effectively shifting such responsibilities to local entities.⁸⁹ The government is also supporting the USD 3.5 million USDOL-funded second phase of the ILO-IPEC project to combat child trafficking and other worst forms of child labor (2006-2009). The project operates in Albania, Bulgaria, the UN-administered Province of Kosovo, Moldova, Romania, and Ukraine.⁹⁰ The project aims to withdraw 1,350 and prevent 3,150 children from exploitive labor throughout all of the participating countries.⁹¹ The Albanian Government is also assisting the USD 2.23 million German Government-funded ILO-IPEC project to combat child labor in the stability pact countries (2003-2007).⁹²

The government provided some support with staff and facilities to assist the NGO community in providing services to child victims of trafficking.⁹³ The government participates in other projects funded by international organizations. USAID supports the Reduce Trafficking in Persons project with the aims of increasing the involvement of NGOs in anti-trafficking activities, improving the protection system for trafficked and at-risk children, and building a national trafficking database.⁹⁴ It also supported a project to reduce internal child trafficking in Albania and external trafficking between Albania and Greece and Italy.⁹⁵ To implement the national plan of action against human trafficking, UNICEF, in cooperation with the government, provided children, family members, and teachers with anti-trafficking educational materials and reintegrated at-risk, abused or exploited children into the formal education system.⁹⁶ The Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA) provided funding to the anti-trafficking program carried out by IOM Tirana for women and children.⁹⁷ UNICEF, USAID, the Greek Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and SIDA provided funding to Terre des Hommes to implement anti-child trafficking projects.⁹⁸

The government worked with NGOs and international organizations on matters of border security and anti-trafficking training for law enforcement officials.⁹⁹ The Government of Albania is a member of the Southeast European Cooperative Initiative, and has participated in regional anti-trafficking efforts through the initiative's Regional Center for Combating Transborder Crime.¹⁰⁰

⁸⁹ Ibid.

⁹⁰ ILO-IPEC, *Trafficking and Other Worst Forms of Child Labor in Central and Eastern Europe (Phase II)*, project document, Geneva, 2006.

⁹¹ Ibid., 69.

⁹² ILO-IPEC official, Email communication to USDOL official, November 16, 2006.

⁹³ Children's Human Rights Centre (CRCA), *Joint East West Research Project on Trafficking in Children for Sexual Purposes in Europe: The Sending Countries*, January 2004, 23. See also U.S. Embassy- Tirana, electronic communication to USDOL official, February 19, 2004. See also U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Albania."

⁹⁴ USAID, *Data Sheet, USAID Mission: Albania, Program Title: Special Initiatives*, 2006; available from <http://www.usaid.gov/policy/budget/cbj2006/ee/pdf/al182-0410.pdf>.

⁹⁵ Ibid.

⁹⁶ UNICEF, *Albania: Child Trafficking*, [online] [cited October 22, 2006]; available from http://www.unicef.org/albania/protection_695.html.

⁹⁷ ILO-IPEC, *Balkans Child Trafficking, technical progress report*, August 31, 2006, 19.

⁹⁸ Ibid.

⁹⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Albania."

¹⁰⁰ SECI Regional Center for Combating Transborder Crime, *Mission of the SECI Center*, [online] 2005 [cited October 22, 2006]; available from <http://www.secicenter.org/html/press%20releases/press%20release%2035.htm>.

Algeria

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Children in Algeria work in small workshops, on family farms, in street vending, and especially in informal trades.¹¹⁰

Children also work as domestic servants.¹¹¹

Algerian children may be trafficked for forced labor as domestic servants or street vendors.¹¹² There have also been reports of children being used by armed groups, including

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children ages 5-14 estimated as working:	Unavailable
Minimum age of work:	16 ¹⁰¹
Age to which education is compulsory:	16 ¹⁰²
Free public education:	Yes ^{103*}
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:	112% ¹⁰⁴
Net primary enrollment rate in 2004:	97% ¹⁰⁵
Percent of children 5-14 attending school:	Unavailable
As of 2003, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	96% ¹⁰⁶
Ratified Convention 138:	4/30/1984 ¹⁰⁷
Ratified Convention 182:	2/09/2001 ¹⁰⁸
ILO-IPEC participating country:	No ¹⁰⁹
*Must pay for school supplies and related items.	

¹⁰¹ Government of Algeria, *Code du travail*, Article 15; available from http://lexalgeria.net/titre_iiitravail.htm.

¹⁰² UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Second Periodic Reports of States Parties due in 2000: Algeria*, CRC/C/93/Add.7, prepared by Government of Algeria, pursuant to Article 44 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, March 3, 2005, para 94; available from [http://www.unhchr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/898586b1dc7b4043c1256a450044f331/fe289cbac5d9292c12570180052d60d/\\$FILE/G0540613.pdf](http://www.unhchr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/898586b1dc7b4043c1256a450044f331/fe289cbac5d9292c12570180052d60d/$FILE/G0540613.pdf). See also Government of Algeria, *Constitution de 1996 (modifiant la Constitution de 1989)*, (1996), Article 53; available from <http://www.conseil-constitutionnel.dz/indexFR.htm>.

¹⁰³ U.S. Department of State, "Algeria," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78849.htm>. See also *Constitution de 1996 (modifiant la Constitution de 1989)*, Article 53.

¹⁰⁴ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

¹⁰⁵ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Rate. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

¹⁰⁶ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Survival Rate to Grade 5. Total*, accessed December 18, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

¹⁰⁷ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, accessed October 20, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/newratframeE.htm>.

¹⁰⁸ Ibid.

¹⁰⁹ ILO, *IPEC Action Against Child Labour: Highlights 2006*, Geneva, October 2006; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ipcc/prod/eng/20061013_implementationreport_eng.pdf.

¹¹⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Algeria," Section 5 and 6d.

¹¹¹ UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Concluding Observations: Algeria*, CRC/C/15/Add.269, Geneva, October 12, 2005, para 78; available from [http://www.unhchr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/898586b1dc7b4043c1256a450044f331/d2316598f6190c4fc12570200049bd8d/\\$FILE/G0544259.pdf](http://www.unhchr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/898586b1dc7b4043c1256a450044f331/d2316598f6190c4fc12570200049bd8d/$FILE/G0544259.pdf).

¹¹² U.S. Department of State, "Algeria (Tier 2 Watch List)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/65988.htm>. See also U.S. Embassy-Algiers, *reporting*, March 6, 2007.

paramilitary forces allied with the government.¹¹³

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The minimum age for employment in Algeria is 16, unless participating in an apprenticeship.¹¹⁴ The Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare may also grant permission for children under age 16 to work in certain fixed-term temporary jobs.¹¹⁵ The law states that “minor workers” must have the permission of a legal guardian, and that they cannot participate in dangerous, unhealthy, or harmful work or in work that may jeopardize their morality.¹¹⁶ The government has not, however, clearly defined the term “minor worker.” In addition, the minimum age law applies only to employment based on a contract and therefore does not apply to children working on their own account.¹¹⁷ Night work is prohibited for youth under the age of 19.¹¹⁸ Violations of labor laws are punishable by fines and, for repeat offenses, imprisonment of between 15 days and 2 months.¹¹⁹

Algerian law prohibits forced or compulsory labor, including by children.¹²⁰ The law provides for imprisonment of 5 to 10 years and fines for the corruption and debauchery of minors younger than age 19. The law also provides for 5 to 10 years of imprisonment and fines for involvement in the prostitution of minors.¹²¹ The law prohibits the creation or distribution of pornography and provides for 2 months to 2 years of imprisonment and fines for offenses.¹²² Although there is no law specifically prohibiting trafficking in persons, the law establishes penalties including imprisonment from 6 months to life for holding and transporting people against their will.¹²³ The law also provides for 5 to 10 years imprisonment and fines for involvement in prostitution when victims “have been delivered or incited to deliver themselves to prostitution” outside Algeria and when victims “have been delivered or incited to deliver themselves to prostitution” shortly after their arrival in the country.¹²⁴ If such crimes involve minors, the prison term may be increased to 15 years and fines doubled.¹²⁵ In addition, the government has stated that laws against illegal immigration and forced labor are used to

¹¹³ UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Concluding Observations: Algeria*, para 70. See also Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, “Algeria,” in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, London, 2004; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=939. See also Human Rights Watch, *Children’s Rights/Child Soldiers Ratification Campaign: Algeria*, [online] 2006 [cited March 16, 2007]; available from <http://www.humanrightswatch.org/campaigns/crp/action/algeria.htm>.

¹¹⁴ *Code du travail*, Article 15.

¹¹⁵ UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Periodic Reports of States Parties: Algeria*, para 94.

¹¹⁶ *Code du travail*, Article 15.

¹¹⁷ ILO, *Report of the Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations (articles 19, 22 and 35 of the Constitution), Third Item on the Agenda: Information and Reports on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations* ILO Conference, 92nd session, Geneva, 2005; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/cgi-lex/pdconv.pl?host=status01&textbase=iloeng&document=8170&chapter=6&query=%28algeria%29+%40ref+%2B+%28%23subject%3D03%29+%40ref&highlight=&querytype=bool&context=0>.

¹¹⁸ *Code du travail*, Article 28.

¹¹⁹ UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Periodic Reports of States Parties: Algeria*, para 363.

¹²⁰ U.S. Department of State, “Country Reports- 2006: Algeria,” Section 6c.

¹²¹ Government of Algeria, *Code pénal*, Articles 342-344; available from <http://www.lexalgeria.net/penal3.htm>.

¹²² *Ibid.*, Article 333bis.

¹²³ *Ibid.*, Articles 291-294. See also U.S. Embassy- Algiers, *reporting*, March 6, 2007.

¹²⁴ *Code pénal*, Article 344.

¹²⁵ U.S. Embassy- Algiers, *reporting*, March 6, 2007.

enforce anti-trafficking standards.¹²⁶ The minimum age for recruitment into military service is 19.¹²⁷

The Ministry of Labor is responsible for enforcing minimum age laws. The U.S. Department of State reports that the Ministry of Labor enforces minimum age laws through surprise inspections of public sector enterprises, but that it does not enforce the law consistently in the agricultural or private sectors.¹²⁸ The Ministry of Interior, through the national and border police, and the Ministry of Defense, through the police-like *gendarmerie* that operate in rural areas, have law enforcement responsibilities relating to trafficking.¹²⁹ The government reported that in 2006, 1,062 persons were charged with activities related to the corruption of minors, which the government indicated were associated with trafficking.¹³⁰

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Government of Algeria has trained government officials to recognize trafficking and to deal with victims of trafficking.¹³¹

¹²⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Algeria," Section 5.

¹²⁷ UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Periodic Reports of States Parties: Algeria*, para 94.

¹²⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Algeria," Section 6d.

¹²⁹ U.S. Embassy- Algiers, *reporting, March 6, 2007*. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Algeria," Section 1d.

¹³⁰ U.S. Embassy- Algiers, *reporting, March 6, 2007*.

¹³¹ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Algeria."

Angola

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2001, approximately 25.6 percent boys and 25.9 percent of girls ages 5 to 14 were working in Angola.¹⁴² Children often work on family farms in subsistence agriculture.¹⁴³ Some children in rural areas also work in diamond mining.¹⁴⁴

The combination of poverty and years of war has led to an influx of

orphaned and abandoned children working in urban areas.¹⁴⁵ Children in urban areas often work as domestic servants and street vendors in the informal sector. Governmental and UNICEF estimates for the number of street children in Luanda vary between 1,500 and 10,000.¹⁴⁶ Street children are also common in the Benguela and Huambo provinces.¹⁴⁷ Some of

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 2001:	25.7% ¹³²
Minimum age for admission to work:	14 ¹³³
Age to which education is compulsory:	Through grade 6 ¹³⁴
Free public education:	Yes ^{135*}
Gross primary enrollment rate in 1999:	64% ¹³⁶
Net primary enrollment rate in 1998:	61.0% ¹³⁷
Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 2001:	65.4% ¹³⁸
Percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	Unavailable
Ratified Convention 138:	6/13/2001 ¹³⁹
Ratified Convention 182:	6/13/2001 ¹⁴⁰
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Yes, associated ¹⁴¹
*Must pay for school supplies and related items.	

¹³² UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, March 1, 2007.

¹³³ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, accessed October 20, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/cgi-lex/ratifice.pl?Angola>.

¹³⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Angola," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78718.htm>.

¹³⁵ *Ibid.*

¹³⁶ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

¹³⁷ *Ibid.*

¹³⁸ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

¹³⁹ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*.

¹⁴⁰ *Ibid.*

¹⁴¹ ILO-IPEC, *IPEC Action Against Child Labour; Highlights 2006*, Geneva, October 2006; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ipec/prod/eng/20061019_Implementationreport_eng_Web.pdf.

¹⁴² UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

¹⁴³ U.S. Embassy- Luanda, *reporting*, December 18, 2006. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Angola," Section 6d. See also U.S. Embassy- Luanda, *reporting*, September 16, 2005.

¹⁴⁴ Rafael Marques, "Beyond 'Conflict Diamonds': A New Report on Human Rights and Angolan Diamonds" (March 24, 2005).

¹⁴⁵ U.S. Embassy- Luanda, *reporting*, September 16, 2005.

¹⁴⁶ U.S. Embassy- Luanda, *reporting*, August 23, 2004. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Angola," Section 5, 6d.

the street children were displaced or separated from their families and communities during the civil war, and live on the streets.¹⁴⁸ However, the majority of the street children only work on the streets, returning to their family homes at night or on weekends.¹⁴⁹ Children on the streets work by shining shoes, washing cars, carrying water, and begging.¹⁵⁰ Many are exploited in prostitution and are at high risk of sexual and other forms of violence and trafficking.¹⁵¹ There have been reports of Angolan children crossing the border into Namibia to engage in prostitution with truck drivers.¹⁵²

Angola is a country of origin for children trafficked to Namibia and South Africa for domestic service and sexual exploitation, as well as for selling goods and illegal money changing.¹⁵³ Internally, children are trafficked primarily for forced labor (commercial agriculture, portering and street vending) and sexual exploitation including forced prostitution.¹⁵⁴ Economically vulnerable children are the most susceptible to trafficking.¹⁵⁵ Children are also trafficked for use as couriers for cross-border trade between Namibia and Angola.¹⁵⁶

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

By law, the minimum age for employment in Angola is 14 years,¹⁵⁷ and the legal minimum age for apprenticeship is 14 years.¹⁵⁸ Children between 14 and 18 are not permitted to work at night, under dangerous conditions, or in activities requiring great physical effort. Children under 16 years are restricted from working in factories.¹⁵⁹

Angolan laws prohibit forced or bonded child labor.¹⁶⁰ The minimum age for voluntary recruitment of men for military service is 18 years and 20 years for women.¹⁶¹ Trafficking in

¹⁴⁷ U.S. Embassy- Luanda, conference call to USDOL official, March 9, 2005.

¹⁴⁸ *Ibid.* See also U.S. Embassy- Luanda, *reporting*, August 23, 2004.

¹⁴⁹ United Nations, *Humanitarian Situation in Angola: Monthly Analysis, October-November 2004*, 2004; available from <http://www.reliefweb.int/rw/rwb.nsf/0/cc3855c3fc3ff171c1256f70003834fa?OpenDocument>. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Angola," Section 5.

¹⁵⁰ U.S. Embassy- Luanda, *reporting*, December 18, 2006. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Angola," Section 5.

¹⁵¹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Angola," Section 5. See also Governo de Unidade e Reconciliação Nacional República de Angola, *Relatório de Seguimento das Metas da Cimeira Mundial pela Infância*, December 2000, 13; available from http://www.unicef.org/specialsession/how_country/edr_angola_pt.PDF.

¹⁵² U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Angola," Section 5.

¹⁵³ *Ibid.* See also U.S. Department of State, "Angola (Tier 2)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/65988.htm>.

¹⁵⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Angola."

¹⁵⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Angola," Section 5. See also U.S. Embassy- Luanda, *reporting*, March 2, 2007.

¹⁵⁶ U.S. Embassy- Luanda, *reporting*, March 2, 2007.

¹⁵⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Angola," Section 6d. See also U.S. Embassy- Luanda, *reporting*, July 15, 2000.

¹⁵⁸ U.S. Embassy- Luanda, *reporting*, December 18, 2006.

¹⁵⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Angola," Section 6d. See also U.S. Embassy- Luanda, *reporting*, July 15, 2000.

¹⁶⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Angola." See U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Angola," Section 6c.

¹⁶¹ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Angola," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, London, 2004; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=757.

persons is not specifically prohibited in Angola, but laws prohibit kidnapping, forced labor or bonded servitude, prostitution, illegal entry into the country,¹⁶² and pornography.¹⁶³ Under Angolan law, sexual relations with a child under 12 years is defined as rape. Rape is illegal, and punishable by up to 8 years' imprisonment. Sexual relations with a child between 12 and 15 years may be defined as sexual abuse, and can result in up to 8 years of imprisonment.¹⁶⁴ Prostitution is illegal in Angola but the law is not consistently enforced.¹⁶⁵ In 2006, Immigration Services began enforcing a law that requires unaccompanied minors to present documentation for international travel.¹⁶⁶

The National Institute for the Child (INAC) is responsible for the day-to-day management of children's affairs.¹⁶⁷ The Inspector General of the Ministry of Public Administration, Employment, and Social Security (MAPESS) has the ultimate authority to enforce labor laws, and the Ministry of Family and Women's Affairs plays a major role in the investigation of child labor complaints.¹⁶⁸ MAPESS maintains employment centers that screen out prospective employees who are under 14 years.¹⁶⁹ In the first half of 2006, MAPESS conducted 2,038 workplace inspections and discovered 22 minors employed by formal sector companies.¹⁷⁰ The Government of Angola does not have the capacity to regulate labor in the informal sector, where most children work.¹⁷¹ The U.S. Department of State reports that in practice, neither MAPESS nor the Ministry of Family and Women's Affairs provide adequate protection for children.¹⁷²

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Government's Special Task Force (comprised of representatives from the Ministry of Social Assistance and Reintegration, the National Institute for Children, and the Ministry of Women and Family) continues to implement a plan to address the needs of street children.¹⁷³ The Ministry of Health provided funds to combat child prostitution through nurses aiding in raising children's awareness about HIV / AIDS.¹⁷⁴

In July 2006, the Government of the Republic of Angola was one of 24 West and Central African countries to adopt the Multilateral Cooperative Agreement to Combat Trafficking in

¹⁶² U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Angola." See also U.S. Embassy- Luanda, *reporting*, October 15, 2002.

¹⁶³ U.S. Embassy- Luanda, *reporting*, October 15, 2002

¹⁶⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Angola," Section 5.

¹⁶⁵ *Ibid.*

¹⁶⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Angola." See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Angola," Section 5. See also U.S. Embassy- Luanda, *reporting*, March 2, 2007.

¹⁶⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Angola," Section 5.

¹⁶⁸ U.S. Embassy- Luanda, *reporting*, October 15, 2002 , U.S. Embassy- Luanda, *reporting*, September 16, 2005.

¹⁶⁹ U.S. Embassy- Luanda, *reporting*, September 16, 2005.

¹⁷⁰ U.S. Embassy- Luanda, *reporting*, December 18, 2006.

¹⁷¹ U.S. Embassy- Luanda, *reporting*, September 16, 2005.

¹⁷² U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Angola," Section 6d.

¹⁷³ United Nations, *Humanitarian Situation in Angola: Oct.-Nov. 2004*. See also U.S. Embassy- Luanda official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, April 10, 2007.

¹⁷⁴ U.S. Embassy- Luanda, *reporting*, March 2, 2007.

Persons, especially Women and Children, in West and Central Africa and the Joint Plan of Action against Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children in the West and Central African Regions.¹⁷⁵ As part of the Multilateral Cooperative Agreement, the governments agreed to put into place a child trafficking monitoring system; to ensure that birth certificates and travel identity documents cannot easily be falsified or altered; to provide assistance to each other in the investigation, arrest and prosecution of trafficking offenders; to protect, rehabilitate, and reintegrate trafficking victims; and to improve educational systems, vocational training and apprenticeships.¹⁷⁶

Anti-trafficking programs supported by the government include training for border post directors, basic assistance and reintegration services for trafficking victims (including literacy and skills training for children), and research on the extent of and the government's response to trafficking in the provinces of Kuando Kubongo, Luanda Norte, Luanda Sul, and Cabinda.¹⁷⁷ The INAC has used newspaper ads, radio public service announcements and government interviews to raise awareness on the commercial sexual exploitation of children. The campaign has reached more than half of the country's population.¹⁷⁸

A World Bank program that ended in December 2006 supported the Angola Emergency Demobilization and Reintegration Project, which aimed to meet the special needs of female, disabled and underage ex-combatants in establishing sustainable livelihoods.¹⁷⁹ UNICEF's 2006 humanitarian program in Angola includes the continuation of family reunification activities for war-affected children.¹⁸⁰

¹⁷⁵ ILO-IPEC, *Combating the Trafficking of Children for Labour Exploitation in West and Central Africa (LUTRENA)*, technical progress report, Washington, DC, September 1, 2006, 10-11.

¹⁷⁶ ECOWAS and ECASS, *Multilateral Cooperation Agreement to Combat Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, in West and Central Africa*, Abuja, July 7, 2006. See also Emmanuel Goujon, "African States Sign Up to Fight Human Trafficking," *Agence France-Presse*, July 7, 2006. See also U.S. Embassy- Luanda, *reporting, March 2, 2007*.

¹⁷⁷ U.S. Embassy- Luanda, *reporting, March 2, 2006*.

¹⁷⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Angola."

¹⁷⁹ The World Bank, *Angola-Emergency Demobilization and Reintegration Project*, PID11534, February 27, 2003; available from http://www-wds.worldbank.org/external/default/WDSContentServer/WDSP/IB/2003/01/11/000094946_0301090403297/Rendered/PDF/multi0page.pdf. See also The World Bank, *Projects and Operations: Emergency Demobilization and Reintegration Project*, accessed October 16, 2006; available from <http://web.worldbank.org/external/projects/main?pagePK=104231&piPK=73230&theSitePK=40941&menuPK=228424&Projectid=P078288>.

¹⁸⁰ UNICEF, *Angola-Humanitarian action*, [online] 2006 [cited October 12, 2006]; available from http://www.unicef.org/infobycountry/angola_31231.html?q=printme.

Argentina

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 1997, approximately 25.4 percent of boys and 16 percent of girls ages 10 to 14 were working in Argentina.¹⁹² In rural areas, children work with pesticides in family and third-party farms in the production of flowers, tomatoes and strawberries.¹⁹³ In urban areas, children are engaged in domestic service, food preparation, street sales, and trash recycling.¹⁹⁴ They also work in small and medium businesses and workshops, and they perform odd jobs such as opening taxi doors,

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 10-14 estimated as working in 1997:	20.7% ¹⁸¹
Minimum age for admission to work:	14 ¹⁸²
Age to which education is compulsory:	18 ¹⁸³
Free public education:	Yes ¹⁸⁴
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2003:	112% ¹⁸⁵
Net primary enrollment rate in 2003:	99% ¹⁸⁶
Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 1997:	96.6% ¹⁸⁷
As of 2002, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	84% ¹⁸⁸
Ratified Convention 138:	11/11/1996 ¹⁸⁹
Ratified Convention 182:	2/5/2001 ¹⁹⁰
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Yes, associated ¹⁹¹

¹⁸¹ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, October 7, 2005.

¹⁸² Government of Argentina, *Ley de Contrato de Trabajo*, Ley No. 20.744, (May 13, 1976), Article 189; available from <http://www.trabajo.gov.ar/legislacion/ley/index.html>.

¹⁸³ U.S. Department of State, "Argentina," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78877.htm>.

¹⁸⁴ Government of Argentina, *Ley Federal de Educación*, No. 24.195, (1993), Article 39; available from <http://www.me.gov.ar/leyfederal/>.

¹⁸⁵ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

¹⁸⁶ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Rate. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://status.uis.unesco.org/>.

¹⁸⁷ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

¹⁸⁸ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Survival Rate to Grade 5. Total*, accessed December 18, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

¹⁸⁹ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, accessed December 27, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/docs/declworld.htm>. See also *ILO Convention 138*; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/cgi-lex/convde.pl?C138>.

¹⁹⁰ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*. See also *ILO Convention 182*; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/cgi-lex/convde.pl?C182>.

¹⁹¹ ILO, *Ficha País: Argentina*, Lima; available from <http://www.oit.org.pe/spanish/260ameri/oitreg/activid/proyectos/ippec/doc/fichas/fichaargentina.doc>.

¹⁹² UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

¹⁹³ CONAETI, *Trabajo infantil rural*, [online] [cited January 26, 2007]; available from http://www.trabajo.gov.ar/conaeti/que_es/rural.htm.

¹⁹⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Argentina." Section 6d.

washing car windshields, and shining shoes.¹⁹⁵

Some children in Argentina are exploited in prostitution, sex tourism, and drug trafficking.¹⁹⁶ According to a 2001 report from UNICEF, children are exploited in prostitution in a variety of situations, including in massage parlors, brothels, and on the street.¹⁹⁷ Girls exploited in prostitution are sometimes denied contact with the outside world, threatened, or beaten.¹⁹⁸

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum age for employment at 14 years. The law allows children under 14 to work in family businesses in a limited number of job categories, as long as such work is not hazardous.¹⁹⁹ Children ages 14 to 18 must present medical certificates that attest to their ability to work and must undergo periodical medical checkups.²⁰⁰ In addition, a government regulation specifically prohibits the employment of children under 14 in domestic service.²⁰¹ Children who have not completed compulsory schooling may obtain permission to work in cases in which their income is necessary for family survival, as long as they continue their studies.²⁰² Such children are prohibited from working more than six hours a day and 36 hours a week and between the hours of 8 p.m. and 6 a.m. In some cases, however, children ages 16 to 18 can work additional hours.²⁰³

The law provides for six to 15 years of imprisonment for facilitating the prostitution of children under 13, and four to 10 years when it involves children 13 to 17.²⁰⁴ The publication and distribution of pornography that features minors carry penalties of six months to four years of imprisonment.²⁰⁵ Argentine law establishes penalties for the smuggling of minors that range from five to 20 years.²⁰⁶ Forced labor is also prohibited under Argentine law.²⁰⁷ In December 2006, the Senate approved an anti-trafficking law that criminalizes trafficking for prostitution and forced labor. Trafficking, or intending to traffic minors, is punishable by

¹⁹⁵ CONAETI, *Trabajo infantil urbano*, [online] July 14, 2003 [cited May 25, 2005]; available from http://www.trabajo.gov.ar/conaeti/que_es/urbano.htm.

¹⁹⁶ *Ibid.* See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Argentina," Section 6d. See also ECPAT International CSEC Database, *Argentina*, accessed January 26, 2006; available from <http://www.ecpat.net/>.

¹⁹⁷ UNICEF, *La niñez prostituida: Estudio sobre la explotación sexual comercial infantil en la Argentina*, Buenos Aires, October 2001, 35.

¹⁹⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Argentina," Section 5.

¹⁹⁹ *Ibid.*, Section 6d.

²⁰⁰ *Ley de Contrato de Trabajo*, Articles 187, 188, and 189.

²⁰¹ *Decreto Ley 326/56*, Article 2; available from

http://www.trabajo.gov.ar/asesoramiento/files/decreto_%20ley%20_326_56.doc.

²⁰² *Ley de Contrato de Trabajo*, Article 189.

²⁰³ *Ibid.*, Article 190.

²⁰⁴ Government of Argentina, *Código Penal*, Título III, (1921), Article 125 bis; available from http://www.justiniano.com/codigos_juridicos/codigos_argentina.htm.

²⁰⁵ *Ibid.*, Article 128.

²⁰⁶ Government of Argentina, *Ley de Migraciones*, Ley 25.871, (January 1, 2004), Article 121; available from http://www.jusneuquen.gov.ar/share/legislacion/leyes/leyes_nacionales/ley_25871.htm.

²⁰⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Argentina," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2005*, Washington, DC, March 8, 2006, Section 6c; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2005/61713.htm>.

prison terms up to 15 years.²⁰⁸ Argentine law sets the minimum age for volunteering for the Argentine armed forces at 18 years.²⁰⁹

The government has trained 365 labor inspectors and other social actors in identifying child labor and in developing an interdisciplinary approach to the issue.²¹⁰ According to the U.S. State Department, Argentina made some progress in its actions against trafficking, mostly in the prevention area. One conviction occurred in September 2006 of a former police officer who was sentenced to 14 years in prison for a trafficking-related prostitution case involving a minor.²¹¹

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The National Commission for the Eradication of Child Labor (CONAETI), headed by the Government of Argentina, completed the first national child labor survey conducted in the country.²¹² Argentina also participates in a USD 2.1 million regional ILO-IPEC child labor survey funded by Canada.²¹³ During 2006, CONAETI's National Plan to Combat Child Labor was approved and enacted by executive decree.²¹⁴ The plan calls for the national consolidation of data, awareness raising, inter-institutional collaboration, stronger inspection mechanisms, mainstreaming of child laborers into the formal education system, research, coordination of child labor laws, and a national program for the prevention and eradication of child labor in rural and urban settings.²¹⁵ CONAETI provides technical assistance to action programs implemented by NGOs addressing child labor in the tobacco and trash-picking sectors, including workshops with tobacco producers to encourage corporate social responsibility on child labor issues.²¹⁶

The Public Ministry established the Unit for the Crime Investigation Against Sexual Integrity and Human Trafficking to coordinate national efforts on trafficking issues.²¹⁷ At the time of this report, this Unit's work was focused principally in the Federal City of Buenos Aires.²¹⁸

²⁰⁸ Página 12, "La trata ya es un nuevo delito federal," *Página 12*, December 7, 2006; available from <http://www.pagina12.com.ar/diario/sociedad/3-77363-2006-12-07.html>.

²⁰⁹ Government of Argentina, *Ley del Servicio Militar Voluntario*, (1994), Article 8; available from <http://www.resdal.org.ar/Archivo/d000000a.htm>.

²¹⁰ Ministerio de Trabajo Empleo y Seguridad Social, *Programa de formación e información sistemática en materia de prevención y erradicación del trabajo infantil*.

²¹¹ U.S. Department of State, E-mail communication to USDOL official, August 3, 2007.

²¹² Página 12, "Los chicos ocupados en perder su futuro," *Página 12*, September 4, 2006; available from <http://www.pagina12.com.ar/imprimir/diario/elpais/1-72495-2006-09-04.html>.

²¹³ ILO-IPEC, *IPEC Projects from All Donors Except USDOL*, November 3, 2006.

²¹⁴ U.S. Department of State official, Letter to USDOL official, August 2006.

²¹⁵ CONAETI, *Plan Nacional para la Prevención y Erradicación del Trabajo Infantil*, October 31, 2002; available from http://www.trabajo.gov.ar/conaeti/actividades/files/plan_nacional_consensuado.doc.

²¹⁶ CONAETI, *Informe de gestión anual*, 2005. See also CONAETI, *Report on the basic fundamental norms on the worst forms of child labor and its eradication*.

²¹⁷ Public Ministry, *Resolución del Procurador General*, June 3, 2005; available from <http://www.mpf.gov.ar/Novedades/Resolucion%20UFI%20INTEGRIDAD%20SEXUAL.pdf>.

²¹⁸ U.S. Department of State, E-mail communication to USDOL official, August 3, 2007.

The Ministry of Education's Integral Program for Educational Equality strengthens the provision of basic education in urban schools that serve vulnerable populations.²¹⁹

²¹⁹ Ministry of Education, *Programa Integral para la Igualdad Educativa*, [online] [cited October 19, 2006]; available from <http://redteleform.me.gov.ar/piie/>.

Armenia

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Children in Armenia work in family-run, small business enterprises.²²⁷

Children can be observed selling flowers on the streets of Yerevan and working in local marketplaces, usually after school hours.²²⁸ There have been reports of increasing numbers of children begging on the streets²²⁹ and dropping out of school to work in the informal sector, especially in agriculture.²³⁰ Outside the urban areas children have been known to work in fishing.²³¹

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working:	Unavailable
Minimum age of work:	16 ²²⁰
Age to which education is compulsory:	14 ²²¹
Free public education:	Yes ²²²
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:	101% ²²³
Net primary enrollment rate in 2004:	94% ²²⁴
Percent of children 5-14 attending school:	Unavailable
Percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	Unavailable
Ratified Convention 138:	1/27/2006 ²²⁵
Ratified Convention 182:	1/2/2006 ²²⁶
ILO-IPEC participating country:	No

²²⁰ *Labor Code of the Republic of Armenia*, (November 9, 2004).

²²¹ U.S. Department of State, "Armenia," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006: Armenia*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2005/61635.htm>.

²²² *Ibid.*

²²³ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrollment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

²²⁴ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrollment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

²²⁵ ILOLEX, *Database of International Labour Standards*, January 31, 2007; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/newratframeE.htm>.

²²⁶ *Ibid.*

²²⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Armenia." Section 6d.

²²⁸ *Ibid.* See also Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Armenia, *Questionnaire Responses*, submitted in response to the U.S. Department of Labor Federal Register Notice (September 25, 2001) "Request for Information on Efforts by Certain Countries to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor", October 24, 2001.

²²⁹ National Center for Democracy and Human Rights, *NGO Report: Supplementary report to Armenia's second periodic report on the implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child*, Yerevan, January 30, 2004; available from http://www.crin.org/docs/resources/treaties/crc.35/armenia_ngo_report.pdf.

²³⁰ UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Concluding Observations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child: Armenia*, Geneva, January 30, 2004, Para. 60; available from <http://www.unhcr.ch/html/menu2/6/crc/doc/co/Armenia%20-%20CO2.pdf>.

²³¹ "Vostan" Ethno-Cultural Research Center Official, Expert, Interview with USDOL Consultant, June 06, 2006. See also Yerevan State University. "Vostan" NGO Official, Lecturer, Interview with USDOL Consultant, June 02, 2006.

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The minimum age of employment is 16 years, but the law allows children 14 to 16 to work with written permission from a parent or guardian. Children under 14 are prohibited from working.²³² Children 14 to 16 may work up to 24 hours per week, and children 16 to 18 may work a maximum of 36 hours per week.²³³ Employers must require proof of a medical examination from any employee under 18.²³⁴ Children under 18 are prohibited from working overtime, at night, on holidays, or in hazardous conditions.²³⁵ Armenian law defines hazardous work to include the production and/or sale of alcohol and tobacco products, as well as activities that may compromise children's health or physical or mental development, or interfere with their education.²³⁶

The Armenian Constitution prohibits forced and compulsory labor, including by children.²³⁷ The law proscribes trafficking in persons and considers child trafficking an aggravated circumstance, which is punishable with 3 to 15 years imprisonment.²³⁸ Sexual intercourse with a minor under 16 is punishable with up to 2 years imprisonment, and involving underage children in prostitution or pornography can result in 5 years imprisonment.²³⁹ The law gives responsibility to the government to protect children from criminal activities, prostitution, and begging.²⁴⁰ Armenian males are registered for military conscription at 16, but are not subject to compulsory military service or voluntary recruitment until 18.²⁴¹

The Armenian State Labor Inspectorate is responsible for ensuring compliance with child labor laws.²⁴² However, the inspectorate has not received or investigated complaints of child labor since its inception in 2005 and does not have any inspectors assigned to child labor.²⁴³ According to the U.S. Department of State, local community councils, unemployment offices, and courts have jurisdiction to enforce the laws on minimum working age, but their efforts are

²³² *Labor Code of the Republic of Armenia.*

²³³ *Ibid.*, Article 140.

²³⁴ *Ibid.*, Article 249.

²³⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Armenia", Section 6d.

²³⁶ U.S. Embassy- Yerevan, *reporting*, August 18, 2004. See also Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Armenia, *Questionnaire Responses*.

²³⁷ Government of Armenia, *Constitution of the Republic of Armenia*, (July 7, 1995); available from http://www.gov.am/enversion/legal_1/legal_sahman_all.html#09. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Armenia." Section 6c.

²³⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Armenia.", Section 5.

²³⁹ *Criminal Code*, Articles 141 and 166; available from

<http://www.legislationline.org/upload/legislations/db/3a/bb9bb21f5c6170dad5efd70578c.htm>. See also UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Consideration of Reports Submitted by States Parties Under Article 44 of the Convention: Armenia*, United Nations, July 17, 2003, Para. 417; available from [http://www.unhchr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/898586b1dc7b4043c1256a450044f331/693ad0fbe22529cbc1256dc70027de86/\\$FILE/G0343131.pdf](http://www.unhchr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/898586b1dc7b4043c1256a450044f331/693ad0fbe22529cbc1256dc70027de86/$FILE/G0343131.pdf).

²⁴⁰ UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Consideration of Reports Submitted by States Parties: Armenia (2003)*, Para. 414.

²⁴¹ *Ibid.*, Para. 51. See also Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, London, November 17, 2004; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=966.

²⁴² *Law on the State Labor Inspectorate of the Republic of Armenia of 2005*, Article 10.

²⁴³ U.S. Embassy- Yerevan, *reporting*, December 12, 2006.

uneven.²⁴⁴ There have been no reports of child labor cases being prosecuted in Armenia.²⁴⁵ Although the Armenian government has heightened its attention to the issue of trafficking and is taking steps to more effectively prevent trafficking-related offenses,²⁴⁶ the U.S. Department of State reports that enforcement of anti-trafficking laws is generally weak, and there is evidence of collusion with traffickers by individual government officials. Several trafficking convictions have been overturned by courts or sentences were reduced by re-classifying charges to pimping, which carries lower penalties.²⁴⁷

Current Government Efforts to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

During the year, the government continued to implement the 2004-2006 National Action Plan to Combat Trafficking.²⁴⁸ The government is collaborating with international organizations and NGOs on a variety of counter-trafficking efforts, including mass-media public awareness campaigns and victim hotlines.²⁴⁹ IOM contributes to the Government of Armenia's counter-trafficking efforts through a project that trains Armenian consular staff to recognize and assist trafficking victims in Armenia.²⁵⁰ The UNDP is working with the government to develop anti-trafficking legislation and strengthen victim assistance efforts.²⁵¹

²⁴⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Armenia," Section 6d.

²⁴⁵ U.S. Embassy- Yerevan, *reporting*, August 18, 2004.

²⁴⁶ *Ibid.*

²⁴⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Armenia (Tier 2 Watch List)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/65988.htm>.

²⁴⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Armenia."

²⁴⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Armenia." Section 5.

²⁵⁰ IOM, *Capacity building for the Consular Personnel in Counter Trafficking: Armenia*, October 17, 2006; available from <http://www.iom.int/armenia/projects/mfa.htm>. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Armenia." Section 5.

²⁵¹ UNDP Armenia, *Supporting formation of informed individuals able to protect their rights*, August 30, 2006; available from <http://www.undp.am/?page=LatestNews&id=309>.

Bahrain

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Small numbers of children in Bahrain perform non-hazardous work in the Manama Central Market, and although not common, some children work in family businesses.²⁶¹

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working:	Unavailable
Minimum age for work:	14 ²⁵²
Age to which education is compulsory:	15 ²⁵³
Free public education:	Yes ²⁵⁴
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:	104% ²⁵⁵
Net primary enrollment rate in 2004:	97% ²⁵⁶
Percent of children 5-14 attending school:	Unavailable
As of 2003, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	100% ²⁵⁷
Ratified Convention 138:	No ²⁵⁸
Ratified Convention 182:	3/23/2001 ²⁵⁹
ILO-IPEC participating country:	No ²⁶⁰

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law forbids the employment of children younger than 14 years.²⁶² Minors 14 to 16 years may work no more than 6 hours per day, with one hour of rest during daytime hours only; minors may not work overtime or be paid on a piece-rate basis.²⁶³ The law also establishes a list of 25 occupations in which no person younger than 16 years may work. These occupations

²⁵² Government of Bahrain, *Labour Law for the Private Sector, as amended*, No. 23, (June 16, 1976), Article 50; available from <http://www.bah-molsa.com/english/chap8.htm>.

²⁵³ Government of Bahrain, *The Education Act* (2005), as cited in U.S. Embassy- Manama, *reporting*, August 27, 2005.

²⁵⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Bahrain," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78850.htm>.

²⁵⁵ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

²⁵⁶ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Rate. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

²⁵⁷ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Survival Rate to Grade 5. Total*, accessed December 18, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

²⁵⁸ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, accessed October 20, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/newratframeE.htm>.

²⁵⁹ *Ibid.*

²⁶⁰ ILO-IPEC, *IPEC Action Against Child Labour: Highlights 2006*, Geneva, October 2006, 29; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ippec/prod/eng/20061013_implementationreport_eng.pdf.

²⁶¹ U.S. Embassy- Manama, *reporting*, August 27, 2005. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Bahrain," Section 6d. See also ILO Committee of Experts, *Direct Request, Worst Forms of Child Labor Convention (No. 182) Bahrain (ratification: 2001)*, [online] 2004 [cited November 2, 2006]; available from <http://webfusion.ilo.org/public/db/standards/normes/appl/>.

²⁶² Government of Bahrain, *Labour Law for the Private Sector, as amended*, Article 50.

²⁶³ *Ibid.*, Articles 49, 51, 52, 53, and 54.

include quarrying; oil refining; auto repair; butchering; construction; and any work that involves lifting heavy loads or contact with radiation, asbestos, furnaces, explosives, batteries, cranes, electricity, pressurized gas, or poisonous dust, vapors, or fumes.²⁶⁴ Working minors 14 to 16 years must obtain authorization to work from the Ministry of Labor (MOL); must undergo a medical examination prior to being employed; and must be granted annual leave of not less than a full month.²⁶⁵ However, these provisions do not apply to workers, including children, in the domestic service and agricultural sectors or in enterprises owned by their immediate family members.²⁶⁶

The MOL is responsible for enforcing child labor laws and regulations.²⁶⁷ Violations of child labor laws are punishable by fines. In addition to levying punishment against employers and supervisors, the law holds responsible any person acting as a guardian who permits the employment of a child or minor in violation of the law's provisions.²⁶⁸ The U.S. Department of State reports that MOL enforcement of child labor laws is adequate in the industrial sector, but not as effective outside that sector.²⁶⁹

The Constitution outlaws compulsory labor,²⁷⁰ and employers found guilty of using forced labor can be liable to imprisonment of up to 10 years.²⁷¹ Prostitution is illegal; forcing or enticing a child under 18 years into prostitution is punishable by 3 to 10 years of imprisonment.²⁷² Child pornography is not explicitly outlawed, but it is illegal to print, possess, or display publications, pictures, and other media that violate public morals.²⁷³ There is no law prohibiting trafficking in persons,²⁷⁴ but trafficking-related crimes may be prosecuted under laws prohibiting forced labor, forced prostitution,²⁷⁵ the abduction or kidnapping of children, or exposure of children to danger.²⁷⁶ However, according to the U.S. Department of State, prosecutions for trafficking-related offenses are rare.²⁷⁷ While there is no compulsory

²⁶⁴ *Ibid.*, Article 51. See also Government of Bahrain, *Subsidiary Legislation Enacted Under the Provisions of the Labour Law for the Private Sector*, No. 23, (1976), Article 1; available from <http://www.bah-molsa.com/english/>.

²⁶⁵ Government of Bahrain, *Labour Law for the Private Sector, as amended*, Articles 51 and 55.

²⁶⁶ *Ibid.*, Articles 2 and 58.

²⁶⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Bahrain," Section 6d.

²⁶⁸ Government of Bahrain, *Labour Law for the Private Sector, as amended*, Article 163.

²⁶⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Bahrain," Section 6d.

²⁷⁰ Government of Bahrain, *Constitution of the State of Bahrain*, (February 14, 2002), Article 13(c); available from http://www.oefre.unibe.ch/law/icl/ba00000_.html.

²⁷¹ U.S. Embassy- Manama, *reporting, March 5, 2007*.

²⁷² *Penal Code*, Articles 324(1) and 325, as cited in ILO Committee of Experts, *Direct Request: Bahrain*. See also ECPAT International CSEC Database, *Bahrain*, accessed October 10, 2006; available from <http://www.ecpat.net/>. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Bahrain," Section 5.

²⁷³ ILO Committee of Experts, *Direct Request: Bahrain*.

²⁷⁴ U.S. Embassy- Manama, *reporting, March 5, 2007*.

²⁷⁵ US Embassy- Manama official, E-mail communication USDOL official, July 29, 2007.

²⁷⁶ UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Consideration of Reports Submitted by States Parties Under Article 44 of the Convention: Initial Reports of States Parties due in 1994*, July 23, 2001, 77; available from http://www.bayefsky.com/reports/bahrain_crc_c_11_add.24_2000.pdf.

²⁷⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Bahrain (Tier 2 Watch List)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/65988.htm>.

military service in Bahrain, juveniles can be recruited into the Bahraini Defense Force from the age of 17 years.²⁷⁸

The MOL grants permits to Bahraini companies to employ foreign workers, and immigration officials ensure that foreign workers entering Bahrain are 18 years of age or older.²⁷⁹ There have been isolated incidents of the use of false documents to gain entry into the country for workers under age 18.²⁸⁰

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The government has supported anti-trafficking training workshops for law enforcement officers, judges, prosecutors, lawyers, NGOs, and employers.²⁸¹ In 2006, the government opened a shelter to provide medical care as well as psychosocial and legal services to female victims of trafficking.²⁸²

²⁷⁸ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Bahrain," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, London, November 17, 2004; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=845.

²⁷⁹ U.S. Embassy- Manama official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, March 19, 2007.

²⁸⁰ U.S. Embassy- Manama, *reporting*, March 5, 2007.

²⁸¹ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Bahrain."

²⁸² U.S. Department of State, "Bahrain," in *Trafficking in Persons Interim Assessment*, Washington, DC, January 19, 2007; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/rpt/78948.htm>. See also U.S. Embassy- Manama, *reporting*, March 5, 2007.

Bangladesh

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2002, approximately 18.5 percent of boys and 7.9 percent of girls ages 5 to 14 were working in Bangladesh.²⁹⁴ Most working children live in rural areas,²⁹⁵ and many begin to work at a very early age.²⁹⁶ The majority of working children 5 to 14 years work in the agricultural sector (62.3 percent), followed by services (23.2 percent), manufacturing (12.6 percent), and other sectors (2

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 2002:	13.4% ²⁸³
Minimum age for admission to work:	Varies by industry ²⁸⁴
Age to which education is compulsory:	10 ²⁸⁵
Free public education:	Yes ²⁸⁶
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:	109% ²⁸⁷
Net primary enrollment rate in 2004:	94% ²⁸⁸
Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 2003:	82.6% ²⁸⁹
As of 2003, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	65% ²⁹⁰
Ratified Convention 138:	No ²⁹¹
Ratified Convention 182:	3/12/2001 ²⁹²
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Yes ²⁹³

²⁸³ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, October 7, 2005.

²⁸⁴ Government of Bangladesh, *Written communication*, submitted in response to U.S. Department of Labor Federal Register Notice (July 29, 2005) "Request for Information on Efforts by Certain Countries to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor", Washington, DC, September 12, 2005.

²⁸⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Bangladesh," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78869.htm>.

²⁸⁶ *Ibid.*

²⁸⁷ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

²⁸⁸ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Rate. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

²⁸⁹ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

²⁹⁰ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Survival Rate to Grade 5. Total*, accessed December 18, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

²⁹¹ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, accessed October 17, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/newratframeE.htm>.

²⁹² *Ibid.*

²⁹³ ILO-IPEC, *IPEC Action Against Child Labour: Highlights 2006*, Geneva, October, 2006, 29; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ipcc/prod/eng/20061013_implementationreport_eng.pdf.

²⁹⁴ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

²⁹⁵ Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics, *Report on National Child Labour Survey 2002-03*, Dhaka, December 2003, xx; available from http://www.ilo.org/public/english/region/asro/newdelhi/ipcc/download/resources/bangladesh/bgd_rep03_eng3_1.pdf.

²⁹⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Bangladesh," Section 6d.

percent).²⁹⁷ Most children's work, in agriculture and other sectors, takes place in the informal economy.²⁹⁸ Street children, mostly boys, can be found in urban areas begging, portering, shining shoes, collecting paper, and selling flowers and other items.²⁹⁹

Children are found working in the following activities, sometimes under hazardous conditions: auto repair;³⁰⁰ battery recharging and recycling;³⁰¹ road transport, such as rickshaw-pulling and fare-collecting;³⁰² saw milling; welding; metalworking; carpentry; fish drying;³⁰³ fish and shrimp farming; leather tanning; brick-breaking; construction; and manufacturing matches³⁰⁴ and garments.³⁰⁵ A large number of children, mostly girls, work as domestic servants in private households, some in conditions resembling servitude.³⁰⁶ These child domestics are vulnerable to abuse, including sexual abuse.³⁰⁷ Boys and girls, often those living on the streets, are exploited in illicit activities including smuggling and trading arms and drugs.³⁰⁸ Large numbers of children are exploited in the commercial sex industry.³⁰⁹ Trafficking of children for prostitution, domestic service, and other purposes is a significant

²⁹⁷ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

²⁹⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Bangladesh," Section 6d.

²⁹⁹ Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics, *Baseline Survey of Street Children in Bangladesh*, Dhaka, December 7, 2003, ix-x; available from http://www.ilo.org/ilroot/docstore/ipecc/prod/eng/2003_streetchildren_bangladesh.pdf.

³⁰⁰ Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics, *Baseline Survey on Working Children in Automobile Establishments*, Dhaka, November 2003, viii; available from <http://www.ilo.org/public/english/region/asro/newdelhi/ipecc/download/resources/bangladesh/bgdpubl03eng7.pdf>.

³⁰¹ Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics, *Baseline Survey on Child Workers in Battery Recharging/Recycling Sector, 2002-03*, Dhaka, February 2004, 23; available from <http://www.ilo.org/public/english/region/asro/newdelhi/ipecc/download/resources/bangladesh/bgdpubl04eng1.pdf>.

³⁰² Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics, *Report of the Baseline Survey on Child Workers in Road Transport Sector*, Dhaka, March 2004, 25; available from <http://www.ilo.org/public/english/region/asro/newdelhi/ipecc/download/resources/bangladesh/bgdpubl04eng2.pdf>.

³⁰³ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Bangladesh," Section 6d.

³⁰⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Bangladesh," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2005*, Washington, DC, March 8, 2006, Section 6d; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2005/61705.htm>.

³⁰⁵ Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics, *National Child Labour Survey 2002-03*, 191. See also National Labor Committee, *Child Labor is Back: Children Are Again Sewing Clothing for Major U.S. Companies*, New York, October 2006; available from http://www.nlcnet.org/live/admin/media/document/ReportPDF/Harvest_Rich/NLC_Child_Labor_WEB.pdf.

³⁰⁶ ILO, *Report of the Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations (Forced Labor Convention, 1930)*, ILO Conference, 75th Session, Geneva, 2004; available from <http://webfusion.ilo.org/public/db/standards/normes/appl/index.cfm?lang=EN>. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Bangladesh," Section 6c.

³⁰⁷ UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Consideration of Reports Submitted by States Parties, Concluding Observations: Bangladesh*, CRC/C/15/Add.221, Geneva, October 27, 2003, 15; available from [http://www.unhcr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/898586b1dc7b4043c1256a450044f331/3ff4da770b9e9847c1256df3005a49f4/\\$FILE/G0344627.pdf](http://www.unhcr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/898586b1dc7b4043c1256a450044f331/3ff4da770b9e9847c1256df3005a49f4/$FILE/G0344627.pdf). See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Bangladesh," Sections 5 and 6c.

³⁰⁸ Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics, *Street Children in Bangladesh*, x. See also Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, *Child Soldiers: CRC Country Briefs*, London, February 1, 2003; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=731. See also ECPAT International, *South Asia Regional Consultation on Prostitution of Boys*, press release, Dhaka, June 8-9, 2006.

³⁰⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Bangladesh," Section 5.

problem in Bangladesh;³¹⁰ some children are sold or sent into trafficking situations by their parents. NGOs report that most trafficked boys are under 10, while trafficked girls tend to be older.³¹¹ Bangladeshi children, especially boys, continue to be trafficked into debt bondage in Gulf countries.³¹²

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The minimum age for employment varies by industry.³¹³ The law prohibits the employment of children younger than 12 years in shops and other commercial establishments, and in 10 processes including tanning; carpet-weaving; stone-cutting; and the manufacture of *bidis* (hand-rolled cigarettes), cloth, wool, cement, shellac, soap, matches, explosives, and fireworks, unless they are working in a family workshop.³¹⁴ The minimum age for work in ready-made garment factories is 15 years,³¹⁵ while the minimum age for work in other factories is 14 years. Young persons 14 to 17 may work in factories for no more than 5 hours per day, between the hours of 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. However, young persons working in factories may not use certain dangerous machines without adequate training and supervision, and the law provides a list of 18 hazardous activities in factories from which children and young persons should be restricted. Employers who repeatedly violate these restrictions on factory work face prison terms of up to 6 months.³¹⁶ Children under 15 may not work in mines, in tea gardens, in the railway transportation sector, or in ports, although young persons ages 15 and 16 may work in railways and ports, provided they receive adequate rest overnight.³¹⁷ Employment of young people under 18 on roads and under 21 as drivers is prohibited,³¹⁸ and employers in violation of these provisions can face prison terms of up to 1 year.³¹⁹ The law requires children to attend

³¹⁰ UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Concluding Observations: Bangladesh*, para 73.

³¹¹ U.S. Embassy - Dhaka, *reporting*, March 1, 2007. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Bangladesh," Section 5.

³¹² U.S. Embassy - Dhaka, *reporting*, March 1, 2007.

³¹³ Government of Bangladesh, *Written communication*, 1.

³¹⁴ Government of Bangladesh, *Shops and Establishments Act (1965)*, as cited in ILO NATLEX National Labor Law Database, *Shops and Establishments Act (1965)*, accessed October 12, 2006; available from http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/natlex_browse.country?p_lang=en&p_country=BGD. See also Government of Bangladesh, *The Employment of Children Act (as modified by Act LIII of 1974)*, No. XXVI, (1938), Article 3; available from <http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/docs/WEBTEXT/47334/65072/E38BGD01.htm>.

³¹⁵ U.S. Embassy- Dhaka official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, January 23, 2007. See also U.S. Embassy- Dhaka, *reporting*, December 21, 2006.

³¹⁶ Government of Bangladesh, *The Factories Act*, No. 4, (1965), Sections 2, 25, 66, 70, 87, 95; available from <http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/docs/WEBTEXT/47346/65073/E65BGD01.htm>. See also Government of Bangladesh, *The Factories Rules*, (1979), Sections 45, 83; available from <http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/docs/WEBTEXT/50617/65128/E79BGD01.htm>.

³¹⁷ Government of Bangladesh, *The Employment of Children Act (as modified by Act LIII of 1974)*, Article 3. See also Government of Bangladesh, *The Mines Act (1923)* and the *Tea Plantation Labour Ordinance (1962)*, as cited in ILO-IPEC, *National Legislation and Policies Against Child Labour in Bangladesh*, [online] March 21, 2005 [cited October 12, 2006]; available from <http://www.ilo.org/public/english/region/asro/newdelhi/ipcc/responses/bangladesh/national.htm>.

³¹⁸ ILO NATLEX National Labor Law Database, *Road Transport Workers Ordinance (1961)*, accessed October 12, 2006; available from http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/natlex_browse.country?p_lang=en&p_country=BGD.

³¹⁹ ILO, *The Effective Abolition of Child Labour*, Geneva, 2001, 213; available from <http://digitalcommons.ilr.cornell.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1003&context=child>.

school only to age 10, leaving a gap between the end of compulsory schooling and the minimum working age that may result in children entering work illegally.³²⁰

The Office of the Chief Inspector of Factories under the Ministry of Labor and Employment is responsible for implementation and enforcement of labor laws, including child labor provisions. According to the U.S. Department of State, child labor enforcement is seriously inadequate relative to the scope of the problem. The ministry has approximately 100 inspectors to investigate more than 21,000 factories; less than 50 violations were recorded in 2006.³²¹ Although the vast majority of child labor occurs in the informal sector, officials inspect only formal sector workplaces and focus primarily on the ready-made garment industry.³²²

The law forbids forced labor³²³ and prohibits parents or guardians from pledging their children's labor in exchange for a payment or benefit.³²⁴ It is illegal to sell, let to hire, procure, hire, encourage, abet, or otherwise obtain possession of any person under 18 for the purpose of prostitution or to maintain a brothel for these purposes. These offenses are punishable by imprisonment of up to 3 years.³²⁵ There are no laws against child pornography in Bangladesh.³²⁶ Child trafficking, which includes importing, exporting, buying, selling, or taking into possession any child for immoral or unlawful purposes, is illegal and punishable by life imprisonment or death.³²⁷ The law also provides for traffickers who have fled to other countries to be extradited to Bangladesh for trial.³²⁸ It is illegal to instigate any person, including a child, to produce or deal in narcotic drugs; this crime is punishable by 3 to 15 years of imprisonment.³²⁹ The minimum age for voluntary military service is 18 years, and there is no forced conscription in Bangladesh.³³⁰ However, the UN Committee on the Rights of the

³²⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Bangladesh," Section 5. See also Right to Education "At What Age?" *Bangladesh*, accessed October 12, 2006; available from <http://www.right-to-education.org/content/age/>.

³²¹ U.S. Embassy- Dhaka, *reporting*, December 21, 2006. See also U.S. Embassy- Dhaka, *reporting*, November 22, 2005. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Bangladesh," Section 6d.

³²² ILO Committee of Experts, *Direct Request, Worst Forms of Child Labor Convention, 1999 (No. 182), Bangladesh (ratification: 2001)*, [online] 2004 [cited November 2, 2006]; available from <http://webfusion.ilo.org/public/db/standards/normes/appl/index.cfm?lang=EN>. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Bangladesh," Section 6d.

³²³ *Constitution of the People's Republic of Bangladesh (as modified up to 17 May, 2004)*, (November 4, 1972), Article 34; available from <http://www.pmo.gov.bd/constitution/contents.htm>.

³²⁴ Government of Bangladesh, *The Children (Pledging of Labour) Act*, No. II, (1933), Section 2.

³²⁵ Government of Bangladesh, *Penal Code (1860)*, as cited in Salma Ali, *Report on Laws and Legal Procedures Concerning the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children in Bangladesh*, Bangkok, October 2004, 15, 17, 46; available from http://www.ecpat.net/eng/Ecpat_inter/projects/promoting_law/bangladesh_report/Laws_Legal_Procedures_Bangladesh_Oct2004.pdf. See also Government of Bangladesh, *Suppression of Immoral Traffic Act*, Act No. VI, (1933), Articles 9-12.

³²⁶ ECPAT International CSEC Database, *Bangladesh*, accessed October 12, 2006; available from <http://www.ecpat.net>. See also Ali, *Laws on CSEC in Bangladesh*, 23.

³²⁷ Government of Bangladesh, *Suppression of Violence against Women and Children Act*, Act. No. VIII, (2000), Article 6. See also Ali, *Laws on CSEC in Bangladesh*, 16, 20.

³²⁸ Government of Bangladesh, *The Extradition Act (1974)*, as cited in Ali, *Laws on CSEC in Bangladesh*, 25.

³²⁹ Government of Bangladesh, *The Narcotics Control Act*, No. XX, (1990), Articles 9, 25; available from http://www.unodc.org/unodc/legal_library/bd/legal_library_1990-11-15_1990-33.html.

³³⁰ CIA, *World Factbook: Bangladesh*, [online] May 17, 2005 [cited October 12, 2006]; available from <https://www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook/fields/2024.html>. See also Coalition to Stop the Use of Child

Child has expressed concern that since many births are unregistered in Bangladesh, children's ages are undocumented and many under age 18 are able to enlist in the armed forces.³³¹

The government has created anti-trafficking units within the police force in every district of the country, established an anti-trafficking court, and assigned a high-level official to coordinate anti-trafficking prosecutions. The government has also intensified its efforts to investigate and prosecute public officials complicit in trafficking crimes. Despite some successes, the U.S. Department of State reports that anti-trafficking efforts still lack adequate resources, and there is still evidence of corruption among anti-trafficking law enforcement officials.³³²

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Third National Plan of Action for Children (2004-2009) commits the government to carry out a variety of tasks to eliminate the worst forms of child labor, with a particular focus on child domestic workers, migrants, refugees, and other vulnerable groups. The commitments include introducing regulations, ensuring working children's access to education, and strengthening the labor inspectorate.³³³ The Ministry of Labor and Employment has a dedicated Child Labor Cell, and the government includes a child labor component in its compulsory training program for entry-level diplomatic personnel and border guards.³³⁴ The government is also engaged in broad awareness-raising campaigns to increase public understanding of child labor issues, which includes specific outreach to micro-credit borrowers and clergy.³³⁵ The Bangladesh Millennium Development Goals include a target of developing and implementing strategies for decent and productive work for youth.³³⁶ The government's PRSP includes as a strategic goal taking immediate and effective measures to eliminate the worst forms of child labor, with a target of increasing the knowledge base about

Soldiers, "Bangladesh," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, London, 2004; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=845.

³³¹ UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Consideration of Reports Submitted by States Parties Under Article (8) of the Optional Protocol on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflicts: Concluding Observations*, Geneva, January, 2006, 3; available from http://www.ohchr.org/english/bodies/crc/docs/co/CRC_C_OPAC_BGD_CO_1.pdf.

³³² U.S. Embassy- Dhaka, *reporting, November 22, 2005*. See also U.S. Department of State, "Bangladesh (Tier 2)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/65988.htm>.

³³³ Government of Bangladesh, *National Plan of Action for Children: Bangladesh*, Dhaka, June 22, 2005, 38, 79-80; available from <http://www.lcgbangladesh.org/Education/reports/NPA%20Master%20Clean%20Final%2022%20June%202005.pdf>.

³³⁴ ILO-IPEC, *Preventing and Eliminating the Worst Forms of Child Labour in Selected Formal and Informal Sectors in Bangladesh*, final technical progress report, Geneva, May 15, 2006, 2. See also U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Bangladesh."

³³⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Bangladesh."

³³⁶ Government of Bangladesh and the United Nations Country Team in Bangladesh, *Millennium Development Goals: Bangladesh Progress Report*, Dhaka, February 2005, Preface, 53; available from <http://www.mdgbanla.org/index2.htm>.

child labor and child rights, and a future priority of legal reform to bring all child labor legislation in line with international standards.³³⁷

The government has been actively engaged with ILO-IPEC since 1994 to implement programs to combat the worst forms of child labor.³³⁸ With funding from the governments of the United Kingdom, Norway and the Netherlands, ILO-IPEC partnered with UNICEF and the ADB through December 2006 on the preparatory phase of the Bangladesh National Timebound Program. This preparatory phase focused on building a base of knowledge on the nature and scope of child labor in Bangladesh, and building consensus and commitment among stakeholders to address the problem.³³⁹ Building on a prior ILO-IPEC project, the Office of the Chief Inspector of Factories provides training and participates with representatives of the ILO and the Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association in a garment factory child labor inspection program.³⁴⁰

The Ministry of Home Affairs is the lead agency on anti-trafficking issues; it chairs an inter-ministerial committee that oversees the country's National Anti-Trafficking Strategic Plan for Action.³⁴¹ The Ministry of Women and Children Affairs is currently implementing its National Plan of Action Against the Sexual Abuse and Exploitation of Children Including Trafficking.³⁴² The plan calls for legal reforms; improved mechanisms for reporting child abuse; greater access to safe spaces and support services for victims and children at risk; and coordinated approaches to monitoring and law enforcement, among other efforts.³⁴³

The government works closely with IOM and other NGOs on their efforts to combat child trafficking through prevention, awareness-raising, rescue, rehabilitation, law enforcement training, research, advocacy, and cross-border collaboration.³⁴⁴ USAID is also working with the government to conduct research on trafficking, strengthen government-NGO linkages, build NGO capacity, strengthen prosecution and protection efforts, and raise awareness of the problem nationwide.³⁴⁵ The Ministry of Social Welfare operates programs including training and development centers for street children and other vulnerable minors.³⁴⁶ In collaboration

³³⁷ Government of Bangladesh, *Unlocking the Potential: National Strategy for Accelerated Poverty Reduction (Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper)*, Dhaka, October 16, 2005, 323; available from <http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/scr/2005/cr05410.pdf>.

³³⁸ ILO-IPEC, *IPEC Action in Bangladesh*, [online] March 21, 2005 [cited October 13, 2006]; available from <http://www.ilo.org/public/english/region/asro/newdelhi/ipec/responses/bangladesh/action.htm>.

³³⁹ ILO Committee of Experts, *Direct Request, Worst Forms of Child Labor Convention, 1999 (No. 182), Bangladesh (ratification: 2001)*, See also ILO-IPEC official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, November 16, 2006.

³⁴⁰ U.S. Embassy- Dhaka, *reporting*, December 21, 2006.

³⁴¹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Bangladesh," Section 5. See also U.S. Embassy - Dhaka, *reporting*, March 2, 2006.

³⁴² Government of Bangladesh, *Written communication*.

³⁴³ UNFPA, *UNFPA Global Population Policy Update*, [online] March 16, 2004 [cited October 13, 2006]; available from <http://www.unfpa.org/parliamentarians/news/newsletters/issue17.htm>.

³⁴⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Bangladesh," Section 5. See also U.S. Embassy - Dhaka, *reporting*, March 1, 2007.

³⁴⁵ USAID, *USAID's Response: Anti-Trafficking*, [online] August 1, 2006 [cited November 2, 2006]; available from http://www.usaid.gov/bd/trafficking_response.html.

³⁴⁶ UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Consideration of Reports Submitted by States Parties Under Article 12(1) of the Optional Protocol on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography: Initial Reports of States Parties*,

with NGOs, the government operates a coordinated mechanism to monitor the repatriation, rehabilitation, and social reintegration of child camel jockeys who have been trafficked to the Middle East.³⁴⁷ UNICEF is collaborating closely with the government to implement the second phase of the Basic Education for Hard-to-Reach Urban Working Children project, which will continue through June 2009. The project is setting up 8,000 education centers to provide non-formal education and livelihood skills to 200,000 working children and adolescents.³⁴⁸

Geneva, December 23, 2005; available from
[http://www.unhchr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/\(Symbol\)/CRC.C.OPSC.BGD.1.En?OpenDocument](http://www.unhchr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/(Symbol)/CRC.C.OPSC.BGD.1.En?OpenDocument).

³⁴⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Bangladesh," Section 5.

³⁴⁸ UNICEF, *Basic Education for Hard-to-Reach Urban Working Children*, [online] [cited November 2, 2006]; available from [http://www.unicef.org/bangladesh/Education_for_Working_Children_\(BEHTRUWC\).pdf](http://www.unicef.org/bangladesh/Education_for_Working_Children_(BEHTRUWC).pdf).

Barbados

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

The ILO Subregional Office for the Caribbean conducted a rapid assessment survey of child work in Barbados in 2002 and found that children were involved in work in the services industry, vending, trades, and family-related businesses.³⁵⁸ Boys were mostly involved in construction, electrical repairs/installations, fruit vending, horse grooming, and assisting at supermarkets.³⁵⁹ Girls worked as shop assistants and in hair styling.³⁶⁰ The working conditions for these children were characterized by long hours, irregular pay, and low remuneration.³⁶¹

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working:	Unavailable
Minimum age for admission to work:	16 ³⁴⁹
Age to which education is compulsory:	16 ³⁵⁰
Free public education:	Yes ³⁵¹
Gross primary enrollment rate:	107% ³⁵²
Net primary enrollment rate:	97% ³⁵³
Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 2001:	Unavailable
In 2003, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	97% ³⁵⁴
Ratified Convention 138:	1/4/2000 ³⁵⁵
Ratified Convention 182:	10/23/2000 ³⁵⁶
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Yes, associated ³⁵⁷

Additionally, there were reports of children involved in commercial sexual exploitation.³⁶² There have been reports of boys and girls both being involved in sex tourism.³⁶³ In some

³⁴⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Barbados," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, 2007; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78879.htm>.

³⁵⁰ *Ibid.*, Section 5.

³⁵¹ *Ibid.*, Section 5.

³⁵² UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

³⁵³ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Rate. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

³⁵⁴ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Survival Rate to Grade 5. Total*, accessed December 18, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

³⁵⁵ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, accessed November 13, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/cgi-lex/ratifice.pl?Barbados>.

³⁵⁶ *Ibid.*

³⁵⁷ ILO, *IPEC Action Against Child Labour Highlights 2006*. Geneva, October 2006; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ippec/prod/eng/20061019_Implementationreport_eng_Web.pdf.

³⁵⁸ ILO, *Regional Fact Sheets on Child Labour: Barbados*, Subregional Office for the Caribbean 2002; available from http://www.ilocarib.org.tt/childlabour/library/fact_sheets/BarbdosFS.pdf.

³⁵⁹ *Ibid.*

³⁶⁰ *Ibid.*

³⁶¹ *Ibid.*

³⁶² *Ibid.*

³⁶³ EPCAT International CSEC Database, *Child Prostitution - Barbados*, November 16, 2006; available from http://www.ecpat.net/eng/Ecpat_inter/projects/monitoring/online_database/Countries.asp?arrCountryID=15&CountryProfile=facts,affiliation,humanrights&CSEC=Overview,Prostitution,Pronography,trafficking&Impleme

instances parents have compelled their children to become prostitutes in Bridgetown's red light district.³⁶⁴

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The minimum age for employment in Barbados is 16 years.³⁶⁵ Children under 16, however, are allowed to work under certain restrictions.³⁶⁶ Such children may not work between 6 p.m. and 7 a.m. as well as during school hours.³⁶⁷ The work of a young person between 16 and 18 is also subject to certain restrictions.³⁶⁸ Young persons may not work in industrial undertakings during the night – from 6 p.m. to 7 a.m. – or participate in work that is likely to cause injury to their health, safety, or morals.³⁶⁹ For the purposes of apprenticeship or vocational training, authorization may be granted to allow young persons to work during the night.³⁷⁰ Young persons participating in an apprenticeship or vocational training must first obtain a medical certificate them as fit to be employed.³⁷¹

The law prohibits forced or compulsory labor.³⁷² There are no laws that specifically address trafficking in persons, although the Young Persons Protection Act of 1918 prohibits the removal of persons under 17 from the island for the purpose of forced labor in foreign countries.³⁷³ Prostitution is illegal,³⁷⁴ as is the exploitation of children to use them in indecent photographs.³⁷⁵

The Child Care Board and the Labor Department are responsible for monitoring and investigating cases of child labor.³⁷⁶ The Labor Department has a small staff of labor inspectors who conduct spot investigations and verify records to ensure compliance with the law.³⁷⁷ These inspectors are authorized to take legal action against employers who are found to use underage workers.³⁷⁸

nt=Coordination_cooperation,Prevention,Protection,Recovery,ChildParticipation&Nationalplans=National_plans_of_action&orgWorkCSEC=orgWorkCSEC&DisplayBy=optDisplayCategory&GetcategoryName=Prostitution.

³⁶⁴ U.S. Embassy- Bridgetown, *reporting*, March 7, 2007.

³⁶⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Barbados." Section 6d.

³⁶⁶ Government of Barbados, *Employment (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act*, (March 24, 1977); available from [http://www.caricomlaw.org/docs/Employment%20\(Miscellaneous%20Provisions\).pdf](http://www.caricomlaw.org/docs/Employment%20(Miscellaneous%20Provisions).pdf).

³⁶⁷ *Ibid.*

³⁶⁸ *Ibid.*

³⁶⁹ *Ibid.*

³⁷⁰ *Ibid.*

³⁷¹ Government of Barbados, *Occupational Training Act*, (October 1, 1979); available from <http://www.caricomlaw.org/docs/Occupational%20Training.pdf>.

³⁷² U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Barbados." Section 6c.

³⁷³ Government of Barbados, *Young Persons Protection Act*, (May 17, 1918); available from <http://www.caricomlaw.org/docs/Young%20Persons%20Protection.pdf>.

³⁷⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Barbados." Section 5.

³⁷⁵ Government of Barbados, *Protection of Children Act*, (December 20, 1990); available from <http://www.caricomlaw.org/docs/Protection%20of%20Children.pdf>.

³⁷⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Barbados." Section 5.

³⁷⁷ *Ibid.*, Section 6d.

³⁷⁸ *Ibid.*, Section 6d.

Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

In October 2001, the ILO Subregional Office for the Caribbean launched the Regional Child Labor Project.³⁷⁹ This project seeks the progressive elimination of child labor, beginning with the worst forms of child labor, in the English and Dutch-speaking Caribbean.³⁸⁰ The project receives USD1.3 million³⁸¹ in funding from the Government of Canada, and promotes national policies to eradicate poverty and increase educational opportunities for children.³⁸² The government has also created restrictions on the import of products produced by child labor.³⁸³

³⁷⁹ ILO, *Combating Child Labour in the Caribbean*, accessed November 17, 2006; available from <http://www.ilocarib.org.tt/childlabour/project-overview.html>.

³⁸⁰ *Ibid.*

³⁸¹ ILO official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, November 16, 2006.

³⁸² ILO, *Combating Child Labour in the Caribbean*.

³⁸³ ILO, *Child Labour in Barbados*.

Belize

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2001, approximately 8.1 percent of boys and 4.6 percent of girls ages 5 to 14 years were working in Belize.³⁹⁵ The majority of working children are found in the agricultural sector (55.3 percent), followed by services (38.8 percent), and manufacturing (3.6 percent).³⁹⁶

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 2001:	6.3% ³⁸⁴
Minimum age for admission to work:	12/14/16 ³⁸⁵
Age to which education is compulsory:	14 ³⁸⁶
Free public education:	Yes ^{387*}
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:	124% ³⁸⁸
Net primary enrollment rate in 2004:	95% ³⁸⁹
Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 2001:	93.2% ³⁹⁰
As of 2000, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	91% ³⁹¹
Ratified Convention 138:	3/6/2000 ³⁹²
Ratified Convention 182:	3/6/2000 ³⁹³
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Yes, associated ³⁹⁴
*Must pay for school supplies and related items.	

³⁸⁴ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, March 1, 2007.

³⁸⁵ Government of Belize, *Labour Act (Revised)*, (December 31, 2000); available from <http://www.belizelaw.org/lawadmin/index2.html>. Chapter 297, Sections 1, 2, 164, and 169. See also SIMPOC and the Central Statistical Office of the Government of Belize, *Child Labour in Belize: A Qualitative Study*, ILO, February 2003; available from http://www.ilo.org/public/english/standards/ipecc/simpoc/belize/report/be_qual.pdf.

³⁸⁶ Government of Belize, *Education Act*, Chapter 36, (Revised Edition 2000); available from <http://www.belizelaw.org/lawadmin/PDF%20files/cap036.pdf>.

³⁸⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Belize," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78880.htm>. See also UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Concluding Observations: Belize*, March 31, 2005, para 60; available from [http://www.unhcr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/0/15d955c522246114c125702100421174/\\$FILE/G0540865.pdf](http://www.unhcr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/0/15d955c522246114c125702100421174/$FILE/G0540865.pdf).

³⁸⁸ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrollment Ratios, Primary*; accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

³⁸⁹ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Rates. Primary.*, December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

³⁹⁰ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, October 7, 2005.

³⁹¹ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Survival Rate to Grade 5. Total*, accessed December 18, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

³⁹² ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, [cited October 18, 2006]; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/cgi-lex/ratifice.pl?Belize>.

³⁹³ Ibid.

³⁹⁴ ILO-IPEC, *All About IPEC: Programme Countries*, [online] 2001 [cited March 7, 2007]; available from http://www.ilo.org/public/english/standards/ipecc/about/countries/t_country.htm.

³⁹⁵ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

³⁹⁶ UNICEF MICS UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, March 1, 2007.

Most working children are found in rural regions,³⁹⁷ where they work on family plots and in family businesses after school, on weekends, and during vacations.³⁹⁸ They also work in citrus, banana, and sugar fields.³⁹⁹ In urban areas, children shine shoes, sell food, crafts, and other small items; they also work in markets.⁴⁰⁰ The practice of minors engaging in prostitution with older men in exchange for clothing, jewelry, or school fees and books is reported to occur throughout the country.⁴⁰¹

Belize is a transit and destination country for children trafficked for labor exploitation.⁴⁰² Girls in particular are trafficked within the country for sexual exploitation.⁴⁰³ There have been reports of instances where child sexual exploitation and trafficking are arranged by family members.⁴⁰⁴

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The Labor Act of Belize sets the minimum age for work as 12, 14, and 16 years in different sections of the text; thus, it has been criticized as being unclear.⁴⁰⁵ According to the Labor Act, children 12 to 14 years may participate only in light work after school hours and for a total of 2 hours on a school day or a Sunday, and only between 6 a.m. and 8 p.m.⁴⁰⁶ The minimum age for employment near hazardous machinery is 17 years.⁴⁰⁷ The Labor Act sets penalties for non-compliance with minimum age standards that include fines and imprisonment up to 2 months, and up to 4 months in the case of a second or subsequent offense.⁴⁰⁸

The law prohibits persons under 18 years from engaging in any forms of harmful employment.⁴⁰⁹ Forced and bonded labor are prohibited.⁴¹⁰ Although there is no law

³⁹⁷ Statistical Information and Monitoring Programme on Child Labor (SIMPOC) and the Central Statistical Office of the Government of Belize, *Child Labour in Belize: A Statistical Report*, ILO, 2003, xix; available from http://www.ilo.org/public/english/standards/ipecc/simpoc/belize/report/be_natl.pdf. See also ILO-IPEC SIMPOC, *Child Labour and Education in Belize: A Situational Assessment and In-depth Analysis*, ILO, June 2003, ix; available from http://www.ilo.org/public/english/standards/ipecc/simpoc/belize/report/be_depth.pdf.

³⁹⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Belize," Section 6d.

³⁹⁹ *Ibid.*

⁴⁰⁰ *Ibid.*

⁴⁰¹ *Ibid.*, Section 5.

⁴⁰² U.S. Embassy- Belmopan, *Reporting*, March 2, 2007.

⁴⁰³ U.S. Department of State, "Belize (Tier 3 Watch List)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, D.C., June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/65988.htm>.

⁴⁰⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Belize." See also, U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Belize."

⁴⁰⁵ *Labour Act (Revised)*. Chapter 297, Sections 1, 164, and 169. See also, SIMPOC and the Central Statistical Office of the Government of Belize, *Child Labour in Belize: A Qualitative Study*, 11. See also, U.S. Embassy- Belmopan, *reporting*, December 22, 2006.

⁴⁰⁶ *Labour Act (Revised)*, Section 169.

⁴⁰⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Belize," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2005*, Washington, DC, March 8, 2006, Section 6d; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2005/61716.htm>.

⁴⁰⁸ *Labour Act (Revised)*, Section 172(1).

⁴⁰⁹ Government of Belize, *Families and Children Act, Revised Edition* (December 31, 2000), Part I, Articles 2(1) and 7; available from <http://www.belizelaw.org/lawadmin/PDF%20files/cap173.pdf>.

⁴¹⁰ *Constitution of Belize*; available from

<http://www.georgetown.edu/LatAmerPolitical/Constitutions/Belize/belize.html>. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Belize," Section 6c.

establishing a minimum age for conscription into the military, the minimum age for voluntary enrollment is 18 years.⁴¹¹ The law punishes trafficking offenses with imprisonment of up to 5 years and fines.⁴¹² The law also prohibits sex with a female younger than 14 years and provides for a penalty of 12 years to life imprisonment. The sentence for the same act with a girl 14 to 16 years is 5 to 10 years.⁴¹³

Inspectors from the Departments of Labor and Education are responsible for enforcing child labor regulations.⁴¹⁴ The Department of Human Services of the Ministry of Human Development and Housing is responsible for the protection of child labor victims.⁴¹⁵ The Anti-Trafficking in Persons Committee has linked a number of government agencies to fight trafficking, including the police; public prosecutors; the Department of Immigration; the Ministries of Home Affairs, Foreign Affairs, and Human Development; the National Committee for Families and Children; and the Government's Press Office. A tripartite team of police, immigration, and social workers from the Ministry of Human Development conducted raids in 2006, identifying seven trafficking victims.⁴¹⁶

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The National Committee for Families and Children (NCFC) provides nationwide training programs for front line police and immigration officials on trafficking.⁴¹⁷ With funds from the IDB and in collaboration with UNICEF, the Ministry of Human Development is engaging in a program to strengthen the government's capacity to combat human trafficking.⁴¹⁸

The Government of Belize continues to participate in a USD 8.8 million regional project funded by USDOL and implemented by ILO-IPEC aimed at combating commercial sexual exploitation of children.⁴¹⁹ The project aims to withdraw 713 children and prevent 657 children from commercial sexual exploitation in the region.⁴²⁰

⁴¹¹ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Belize," in *Global Report 2004*; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=810.

⁴¹² U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Belize." Section 5.

⁴¹³ *Criminal Code, Chapter 101*, (Amended May 31, 2003); available from <http://www.belizelaw.org/lawadmin/index2.html>.

⁴¹⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Belize," Section 6d.

⁴¹⁵ Belize Labour Commissioner, Electronic communication to USDOL official, August 26, 2005.

⁴¹⁶ U.S. Embassy- Belmopan, *U.S. Embassy -Reporting, March 2, 2007*.

⁴¹⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Belize," Section 5.

⁴¹⁸ Inter-American Development Bank, *Projects*, [cited September 25, 2006]; available from [http://www.iadb.org/projects/Project.cfm?project=BL-T1004\\$Language=English](http://www.iadb.org/projects/Project.cfm?project=BL-T1004$Language=English).

⁴¹⁹ ILO-IPEC, *Contribution to the Prevention and Elimination of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children in Central America, Panama and the Dominican Republic*, project document, RLA/02/P51/USA, 2002, 2005.

⁴²⁰ *Ibid.*

Benin

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2002-2003, approximately 11.5 percent of boys and 15.3 of girls ages 5 to 14 were working in Benin. The majority of working children were found in the agricultural sector (68.9 percent), followed by services (22.3 percent), manufacturing (5.2 percent), and other sectors (3.7 percent).⁴³² In Benin, children work on family farms, in stone

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 2002-2003:	13.2% ⁴²¹
Minimum age for admission to work:	14 ⁴²²
Age to which education is compulsory:	11-12 ⁴²³
Free public education:	Yes* ⁴²⁴
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:	99% ⁴²⁵
Net primary enrollment rate in 2004:	83% ⁴²⁶
Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 2003:	59.2% ⁴²⁷
As of 2003, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	69% ⁴²⁸
Ratified Convention 138:	6/11/2001 ⁴²⁹
Ratified Convention 182:	11/6/2001 ⁴³⁰
ILO-IPEC Participating Country:	Yes ⁴³¹
* Must pay for school supplies, related items, and in some cases, tuition.	

⁴²¹ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, March 1, 2007.

⁴²² Government of Benin, *Code du travail*, Loi no 98-004, (January 27, 1998); available from <http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/docs/WEBTEXT/49604/65115/F98BEN01.htm>.

⁴²³ ILO Committee of Experts, *Direct Request, Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138) Benin (ratification: 2001)*, [online] 2004 [cited October 16, 2006]; available from <http://webfusion.ilo.org/public/db/standards/normes/appl/index.cfm?lang=EN>.

⁴²⁴ Government of Benin, *Constitution de la République du Bénin*, (December 11, 1990), Articles 12 and 13; available from <http://www.afrikinfo.com/lois/benin/loi/text.htm>. See also U.S. Department of State, "Benin," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78719.htm>. See also U.S. Embassy- Cotonou official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, February 19, 2004. Also see Catholic Relief Services- staff member, E-mail communication to CRS staff member, May 15, 2007.

⁴²⁵ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

⁴²⁶ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Rate. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

⁴²⁷ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

⁴²⁸ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Survival Rate to Grade 5. Total*, accessed December 18, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

⁴²⁹ ILO, *Benin Ratified 26 Instrument(s)*, accessed June 15, 2005; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/cgi-lex/ratific.pl?Benin>.

⁴³⁰ ILO, *Benin Ratified 26 Instrument(s)*, accessed June 15, 2005; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/cgi-lex/ratific.pl?Benin>.

⁴³¹ ILO-IPEC, *IPEC Action Against Child Labour- Highlights 2006*, [online] 2006 [cited March 6, 2007]; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ipcc/prod/eng/20061013_implementationreport_eng.pdf.

⁴³² UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

quarries, in small businesses, on construction sites, and in markets.⁴³³ The government reported in 2005 that children were increasingly involved in begging.⁴³⁴ Beninese boys studying with Koranic teachers work in agriculture and as alms collectors, porters, and rickshaw operators in exchange for education.⁴³⁵ Child prostitution, mainly involving girls, is prevalent in urban areas.⁴³⁶

Under the practice of *Vidomegon*, children, often girls, from poor families are sent to work for wealthier households as domestics or in markets in exchange for housing and food. Income generated from the children's activities is divided between the children's host and natural families. While the arrangement is initially a voluntary one between the families, the child frequently is subject to poor conditions such as long hours, insufficient food, and sexual exploitation. In some instances, the child is trafficked into a situation of forced labor.⁴³⁷

Benin is a source, destination and transit country for the trafficking of children.⁴³⁸ In addition to trafficking for domestic service related to *Vidomegon*, Beninese children are trafficked domestically for market vending, work in handicrafts, construction, and forced begging.⁴³⁹ They are also trafficked into Nigeria, Gabon, Côte d'Ivoire, and Ghana for domestic service, farm labor, and prostitution.⁴⁴⁰ Children are trafficked to Togo for work on plantations and are also trafficked to Niger. Some children are trafficked to Nigeria for work in rock quarries.⁴⁴¹ Further, children from Niger, Togo, and Burkina Faso are trafficked into Benin for forced labor, bonded labor and domestic servitude, sometimes for debt payment.⁴⁴² Some families place children in the care of agents recruiting farm labor and domestic servants, believing that the wages from this labor will be sent home to the family; some agents escorted these children to other countries for labor.⁴⁴³

⁴³³ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Benin," Section 6d. See also Integrated Regional Information Networks, "BENIN: Children Crushing Stones into Gravel to Get Through School", IRINnews.org, [online], June 29, 2005 [cited October 12, 2006]; available from <http://www.irinnews.org/print.asp?ReportID=47890>.

⁴³⁴ United Nations, *Committee on the Rights of the Child: Consideration of Reports Submitted by States Parties under Article 44 of the Convention: Second Periodic Reports of States Parties Due in 1997: Benin*, CRC/C/BEN/2, November 24, 2005, para 690.

⁴³⁵ *Ibid.*, para 697-698.

⁴³⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Benin," section 5. See also ECPAT International CSEC Database, *Benin*, accessed October 12, 2006; available from <http://www.ecpat.net/>.

⁴³⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Benin," Section 5.

⁴³⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Benin (Tier 2)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/65988.htm>. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Benin," Section 5. See also The Protection Project, "Benin," in *2005 Human Rights Report on Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children*, Washington, DC, 2005; available from <http://www.protectionproject.org>.

⁴³⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Benin," Section 5. See also U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Benin." See also U.S. Embassy- Cotonou, *reporting, August 26, 2004*.

⁴⁴⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Benin," Section 5. See also International Organization for Migration, *New IOM Figures on the Global Scale of Trafficking*, Geneva, April 2001; available from http://www.old.iom.int/documents/publication/en/tm_23.pdf.

⁴⁴¹ U.S. Embassy- Cotonou, *reporting, August 26, 2004*.

⁴⁴² U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Benin." See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Benin," Section 5. See also Catholic Relief Services- staff member, E-mail communication to CRS staff member.

⁴⁴³ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Benin," Section 5. See also International Organization for Migration, *New IOM Figures on the Global Scale of Trafficking*.

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum age for employment at 14 years, including for apprenticeships; however, children between 12 and 14 years may perform domestic work and temporary or seasonal light work, if it does not interfere with their compulsory schooling.⁴⁴⁴ The law requires children to attend school only to age 11-12, leaving a gap between the end of compulsory schooling and the minimum working age that may result in children entering work illegally. Beninese law also prohibits workers under 18 years from performing certain types of work, including transporting heavy loads, operating certain types of machinery, working with hazardous substances, and working in underground mines and quarries.⁴⁴⁵ Employers are required to maintain a register including the birth date of all employees under 18, and a labor inspector can require that workers between 14 and 21 be examined by a doctor to determine that they are not working beyond their abilities.⁴⁴⁶ Violators of the minimum age laws are subject to fines, and in the case of repeat violators, a heavier fine is imposed.⁴⁴⁷

The law prohibits forced labor and stipulates a penalty of imprisonment for 2 months to 1 year and/or a fine.⁴⁴⁸ The minimum age for recruitment into the military is 21 years.⁴⁴⁹ In 2006, Benin passed and promulgated the Law on Conditions of Displacement of Minors and Repression of Child Trafficking in the Republic of Benin, which expressly forbids the trafficking of children.⁴⁵⁰ The law defines child trafficking as any means that alienate a child's freedom, such as the recruitment, transport, placement, receiving, or harboring of a child with the intent of exploitation. Exploitation is defined to include practices such as forced or compulsory labor, prostitution, the use of children in armed conflict, the use of children for the purpose of illicit activities, and work that may harm the safety, health, and morals of children.⁴⁵¹ The punishment for moving or attempting to move a child within the country without proper authorization is imprisonment of 1 to 3 years and fines.⁴⁵² The punishment for moving a child out of Benin without proper authorization is 2 to 5 years of imprisonment and fines.⁴⁵³ Child traffickers face a punishment of 10 to 20 years in prison, with the penalty increasing to life in prison if the child is not returned or is found dead before a verdict is reached or if force, fraud, or violence are used or other aggravating circumstances exist.⁴⁵⁴

⁴⁴⁴ Government of Benin, *Code du travail*, Articles 66 and 166. See also ILO Committee of Experts, *Direct Request: Benin, Convention 138*.

⁴⁴⁵ Inter-Ministerial Order No. 132 of 2000 as noted in ILO Committee of Experts, *Direct Request: Benin, Convention 138*.

⁴⁴⁶ Government of Benin, *Code du travail*, Articles 167 and 169.

⁴⁴⁷ *Ibid.*, Article 301.

⁴⁴⁸ *Ibid.*, Articles 3 and 303.

⁴⁴⁹ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, November 17, 2004; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=758.

⁴⁵⁰ Government of Benin, *Loi portant conditions de déplacement des mineurs et répression de la traite d'enfants en République du Bénin*, Loi no 2006-04, (2006); available from <http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/docs/SERIAL/73266/74783/F1933999553/BEN73266.pdf>. See also ILO-IPEC, *Combating the Trafficking of Children for Labour Exploitation in West and Central Africa (LUTRENA)*, technical progress report, Geneva, September 1, 2006.

⁴⁵¹ Government of Benin, *Loi portant conditions de déplacement des mineurs et répression de la traite d'enfants en République du Bénin*, Articles 3-4.

⁴⁵² *Ibid.*, Article 17.

⁴⁵³ *Ibid.*, Article 18.

⁴⁵⁴ *Ibid.*, Article 21.

Individuals who employ child trafficking victims in Benin face 6 months to 2 years of imprisonment and a fine, while the penalty for parents who send their children with traffickers is a prison sentence of 6 months to 5 years.⁴⁵⁵

The Ministry of Interior's Brigade for the Protection of Minors has jurisdiction over all law enforcement matters related to children, including child labor and child trafficking; however, the U.S. Department of State reports that the Brigade is understaffed and lacks the necessary resources to carry out its mandate.⁴⁵⁶ Additionally, the Ministry of Labor is responsible for implementing the child labor provisions in the Labor Code; but, according to the U.S. Department of State, its enforcement is limited because of a lack of resources and does not include the informal sector.⁴⁵⁷ The government did, however, work with NGOs to improve border surveillance.⁴⁵⁸

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

During the reporting period, the Government of Benin participated in the regional USDOL-funded USD 9.5 million LUTRENA project implemented by ILO-IPEC to combat the trafficking of children for exploitive labor in West and Central Africa. The project aimed to withdraw and prevent 9,000 children from trafficking.⁴⁵⁹ The Government also participated in a 4-year USDOL-funded USD 2 million child labor Education Initiative implemented by Catholic Relief Services to combat child trafficking and prevent children from becoming victims of trafficking by improving access to basic education.⁴⁶⁰ The project sought to withdraw 1,500 children from trafficking and to prevent an additional 4,500 from falling victim to trafficking.⁴⁶¹ UNICEF sponsored training for the Brigade for the Protection of Minors. The brigade seeks to improve the capacity of Government of Benin to investigate and prosecute trafficking cases and to protect trafficking victims.⁴⁶² Denmark is also funding a regional USD 3.3 million ILO-IPEC project that includes Benin and will combat trafficking in children. France recently ended funding for a USD 3.6 million regional project implemented by ILO-IPEC to combat child labor in francophone Africa.⁴⁶³

In July 2006, 24 of the 26 governments representing ECOWAS and ECASS participated in a Joint Ministerial Conference on Trafficking in Persons held in Nigeria to develop a common understanding of trafficking in West and Central Africa and to adopt a common set of

⁴⁵⁵ Ibid., Articles 16, 22, 23, and 24.

⁴⁵⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Benin," Section 5.

⁴⁵⁷ Ibid., Section 6d.

⁴⁵⁸ Ibid., section 5.

⁴⁵⁹ International Child Labor Program U.S. Department of Labor, *Combating Trafficking in Children for Labor Exploitation in West and Central Africa, Phases 1 & 2 (LUTRENA), project summary*, 2006.

⁴⁶⁰ Catholic Relief Services, *Education First: Combating Child Trafficking through Education in Benin*, technical progress report, Baltimore, September 15, 2006.

⁴⁶¹ International Child Labor Program U.S. Department of Labor, *Education First Project, project summary*, 2006. See also ILO-IPEC, *LUTRENA technical progress report- September 2006*.

⁴⁶² U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Benin." See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Benin," Section 5.

⁴⁶³ ILO-IPEC Geneva official, IPEC projects from all donors except USDOL E-mail communication USDOL official, March 1, 2007.

strategies against trafficking in persons, especially women and children. During the Ministerial Conference, Benin was 1 of 24 countries to sign the Multilateral Cooperative Agreement to Combat Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children, in West and Central Africa and the Joint Plan of Action against Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children in the West and Central African Regions.⁴⁶⁴ The agreement enters into force in each country upon signing. As part of the Multilateral Cooperative Agreement and through the Joint Plan of Action, the governments agreed to institute the child trafficking monitoring system developed by the USDOL-funded ILO-IPEC LUTRENA project. The parties also agreed to take further steps, including to put in place appropriate mechanisms such as birth-registration, documentation to ensure that children are prevented from becoming victims of trafficking and to assist with investigation of traffickers and reintegration of victims in the event of victimization; to provide mutual assistance in the investigation, arrest, and prosecution of trafficking in persons' offenders through the respective competent authorities of the Parties; to protect, rehabilitate and reintegrate victims of trafficking into their original environment where necessary; and to improve systems for education, vocational training, and apprenticeships.⁴⁶⁵

On June 9, 2006, the Government of Benin signed an agreement with Nigeria to prevent, suppress, and punish trafficking in persons. Further, on July 20, 2006, the Government of Benin was also signatory to a regional accord with nine Central and West African countries to combat trafficking, under which an action plan was developed in 2006.⁴⁶⁶ The objectives of the bilateral agreement include establishing joint surveillance patrols and awareness-raising campaigns along border areas, and rehabilitating and reintegrating trafficking victims. A joint committee has been set up to implement the agreement, and a joint plan of action against trafficking in persons was adopted. The cooperation resulting from the agreement has seen an increase in the return of trafficked Beninese children to the proper authorities in their home country.⁴⁶⁷

The government is implementing a National Plan of Action, developed by the National Commission on Child Rights, which addresses child trafficking issues.⁴⁶⁸ The Ministry of Family, Women, and Children collaborates with donors and NGOs to provide child trafficking victims with basic services such as food and shelter and to place them in educational and vocational programs.⁴⁶⁹ The government continues to raise awareness of child labor and

⁴⁶⁴ ILO-IPEC, *LUTRENA technical progress report- September 2006*. See also Catholic Relief Services official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, October 2, 2006.

⁴⁶⁵ ECOWAS and ECASS, *Multilateral Cooperation Agreement to Combat Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children, in West and Central Africa*, Abuja, July 7, 2006. See also ILO-IPEC, *LUTRENA technical progress report- September 2006*. See also Emmanuel Goujon, "African states sign up to fight human trafficking," *Agence France-Presse*, July 7, 2006.

⁴⁶⁶ ILO-IPEC, *LUTRENA technical progress report- September 2006*.

⁴⁶⁷ Max Amuchie, "Nigeria, Benin United Against Child Trafficking," *This Day* (Lagos), June 19, 2005. See also UNICEF, *Benin and Nigeria Pledge to Fight Child Trafficking*, press release, June 9, 2005; available from http://www.unicef.org/media/media_27309.html. See also U.S. Embassy- Cotonou, *reporting*, May 28, 2006.

⁴⁶⁸ Catholic Relief Services Benin, *Education First: Combating Child Trafficking through Education in Benin*, technical progress report, Baltimore, March 26, 2004. See also ECPAT International CSEC Database, *Benin*, accessed October 12, 2006; available from <http://www.ecpat.net/>.

⁴⁶⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Benin," Section 5. See also Catholic Relief Services, *Education First technical progress report- September 2006*.

trafficking through media campaigns and regional workshops, and by collaborating with a network of NGOs and journalists.⁴⁷⁰ The Brigade for the Protection of Minors operates a free hotline for children to report abuse or other problems, and it has been trained on how to identify and protect trafficking victims.⁴⁷¹

⁴⁷⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Benin," Section 6d.

⁴⁷¹ ECPAT International CSEC Database, *Benin*. See also U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Benin."

Bhutan

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2003, approximately 16.1 percent of boys and 22.7 percent of girls ages 10 to 14 were working in Bhutan. The majority of working children were found in the agricultural sector (92.2 percent), followed by services (1.9 percent), manufacturing (0.1 percent), and other sectors (5.9 percent).⁴⁸¹ Children working in agriculture do so primarily on family farms.⁴⁸² Migrant workers including child workers as young as 11 are found in road construction.⁴⁸³ Children also work as doma sellers and as street vendors;⁴⁸⁴ according to UNICEF, they are also involved in commercial sexual exploitation.⁴⁸⁵

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 10-14 estimated as working in 2003:	19.6% ⁴⁷²
Minimum age for admission to work:	18 ⁴⁷³
Age to which education is compulsory:	17 ⁴⁷⁴
Free public education:	Yes ⁴⁷⁵
Gross primary enrollment rate:	Unavailable
Net primary enrollment rate:	Unavailable
Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 2003:	69% ⁴⁷⁶
As of 2000, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	91% ⁴⁷⁷
Ratified Convention 138:	Non-ILO member ⁴⁷⁸
Ratified Convention 182:	Non-ILO member ⁴⁷⁹
ILO-IPEC participating country:	No ⁴⁸⁰

⁴⁷² UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, March 1, 2007.

⁴⁷³ Government of Bhutan, *Rules and Regulations on Employment of Bhutanese Nationals in the Private Sector*, (1997).

⁴⁷⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Bhutan," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78870.htm>.

⁴⁷⁵ *Ibid.*

⁴⁷⁶ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Attendance Statistics*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

⁴⁷⁷ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Survival Rate to Grade 5. Total*, accessed December 18, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

⁴⁷⁸ ILO, *Alphabetical list of ILO member countries*, [online] 2006 [cited December 21, 2006]; available from <http://www.ilo.org/public/english/standards/relm/country.htm>.

⁴⁷⁹ *Ibid.*

⁴⁸⁰ ILO, *IPEC Actions Against Child Labour- Highlights 2006*, Geneva, October 2006; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ippec/prod/eng/20070228_Implementationreport_en_Web.pdf.

⁴⁸¹ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

⁴⁸² U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Bhutan," Section 6d.

⁴⁸³ U.S. Embassy- New Delhi, *reporting* September 17, 2004.

⁴⁸⁴ UNICEF, *Report on Assessment of Protection Factors of Children in Bhutan*, Ministry of Health, Thimphu, 2004.

⁴⁸⁵ *Ibid.*

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

Bhutanese law prohibits the employment of children and states that candidates seeking employment shall have attained the age of majority, 18 years, to be eligible for appointment to any post in a business establishment.⁴⁸⁶ The Ministry of Labor reportedly conducts 10 to 15 inspections per week, most of which are in the construction sector, where most foreign child workers are found.⁴⁸⁷ Forced labor is prohibited by Bhutanese law.⁴⁸⁸ Bhutanese law also criminalizes sex crimes and offenses against children.⁴⁸⁹ According to the law of Bhutan, child trafficking has a minimum penalty of 3 years.⁴⁹⁰ Prostitution is a felony with penalties varying according to the age of the child.⁴⁹¹ Children are permitted to enlist in the armed forces at 15 years.⁴⁹²

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

Research has not identified any policies or programs by the Government of Bhutan to address exploitive child labor.

⁴⁸⁶ United Nations, *Initial Reports of State Parties due in 1992: Bhutan*, October 14, 1999, UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Initial Reports of State Parties due in 1992: Bhutan*, CRC/C/3/Add.60, prepared by Government of Bhutan, pursuant to Article 44 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, October 1999. See also Government of Bhutan, *Rules and Regulations on Employment*.

⁴⁸⁷ U.S. Embassy- New Delhi, *reporting September 17, 2004*.

⁴⁸⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Bhutan," Section 6c.

⁴⁸⁹ U.S. Embassy- New Delhi, *reporting September 17, 2004*.

⁴⁹⁰ Government of Bhutan, *Penal Code of Bhutan*, para 3(a).

⁴⁹¹ *Ibid.*, para. 380.

⁴⁹² UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Summary Record of the 715th Meeting: Bhutan*, United Nations, Geneva, June 2001.

Bolivia

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2002, approximately 23.9 percent of boys and 22.5 percent of girls ages 7 to 14 were working in Bolivia. The majority of working children in Bolivia were found in the agricultural sector (76.3 percent), followed by services (18.8 percent), manufacturing (4.2 percent), and other sectors (0.7 percent).⁵⁰⁴

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 7-14 estimated as working in 2002:	23.2% ⁴⁹³
Minimum age for admission to work:	14 ⁴⁹⁴
Age to which education is compulsory:	13 ⁴⁹⁵
Free public education:	Yes ⁴⁹⁶
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:	113% ⁴⁹⁷
Net primary enrollment rate in 2004:	95% ⁴⁹⁸
Percent of children 7-14 attending school in 2002:	93.5% ⁴⁹⁹
As of 2003, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	86% ⁵⁰⁰
Ratified Convention 138:	6/11/1997 ⁵⁰¹
Ratified Convention 182:	6/6/2003 ⁵⁰²
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Yes ⁵⁰³

⁴⁹³ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, March 1, 2007, Section 6d.

⁴⁹⁴ ILOLEX, *C138 Minimum Age Convention, 1973*, accessed October 12, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/cgi-lex/pdconv.pl?host=status01&textbase=iloeng&document=6503&chapter=19&query=C138%40ref&highlight=&querytype=bool>.

⁴⁹⁵ Government of Bolivia, *Constitución Política del Estado*, Ley 1615, (February 6, 1995), Article 177; available from <http://www.geocities.com/bolilaw/legisla.htm>. See also IDB, *Education Reform Program: Second Stage*, loan proposal, 2006, Section 1.8; available from <http://www.iadb.org/projects/Project.cfm?project=BO0178&Language=English#>. See also Government of Bolivia, *Ley 1565: Reforma educativa*, (July 7, 1994), Chapter V, Article 11; available from http://www.minedu.gov.bo/minedu/_docs/_5/ley1565.pdf.

⁴⁹⁶ Government of Bolivia, *Constitución Política del Estado*, Article 177.

⁴⁹⁷ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

⁴⁹⁸ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Rate. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

⁴⁹⁹ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

⁵⁰⁰ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Survival Rate to Grade 5. Total*, accessed December 18, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

⁵⁰¹ ILOLEX, *C138 Minimum Age Convention, 1973*.

⁵⁰² ILOLEX, *C182 Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999*, accessed October 12, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/cgi-lex/pdconv.pl?host=status01&textbase=iloeng&document=7169&chapter=19&query=C182%40ref&highlight=&querytype=bool>.

⁵⁰³ ILO-IPEC, *IPEC Action Against Child Labour: Highlights 2006*, Geneva, February, 2007; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ippec/prod/eng/20070228_Implementationreport_en_Web.pdf.

⁵⁰⁴ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

Children work in the production of sugar cane and Brazilian nuts.⁵⁰⁵ Children also engage in activities such as begging, street vending, shining shoes, and assisting transport operators.⁵⁰⁶ Additionally, children work in industry, construction, small business, personal services, hotels and restaurants, and small-scale mining.⁵⁰⁷ Children have been used to traffic drugs.⁵⁰⁸ Some children are brought or sent by their family members from rural to urban areas to work as domestic servants for higher-income families, often in situations that amount to indentured servitude.⁵⁰⁹

The commercial sexual exploitation of children, including child prostitution, is a problem in Bolivia, particularly in the Chapare region and in urban areas.⁵¹⁰ The internal trafficking of children for the purposes of prostitution, domestic service, forced mining, and agricultural labor, particularly on sugar cane and Brazilian nut plantations in Santa Cruz and Tarija, also occurs.⁵¹¹ Children from indigenous ethnic groups in the Altiplano region were at the greatest risk of being trafficked.⁵¹² A study sponsored by IOM and the OAS found that there were girls from Argentina, Paraguay, Brazil, Chile, and Colombia working as prostitutes in urban centers in Bolivia.⁵¹³

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

Bolivian law sets the minimum age for employment at 14 years, except in the case of apprenticeships.⁵¹⁴ The ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations has noted that Bolivian law does not provide a minimum age for

⁵⁰⁵ UNICEF, *Caña dulce, vida amarga: El trabajo de los niños, niñas y adolescentes en la zafra de caña de azúcar*, 2004, 1. See also U.S. Embassy- La Paz, *reporting*, August 30, 2005. See also U.S. Department of State, "Bolivia," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Sections 5 and 6d; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78881.htm>.

⁵⁰⁶ U.S. Embassy- La Paz, *reporting*, August 30, 2005. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Bolivia," Section 6d.

⁵⁰⁷ Victor Mezza Rosso, Carmen Ledo García, and Isabel Quisbert Arias, *Trabajo Infantil en Bolivia*, National Institute of Statistics and UNICEF, La Paz, 2004, 31-32. See also Noel Aguirre Ledezma, *Plan Nacional de erradicación progresiva del trabajo infantil: Evaluación externa de medio término, informe preliminar*, May 2005, 11. See also ILO-IPEC, *Phase II: Prevention and Progressive Elimination of Child Labor in Small-scale Traditional Gold Mining in South America*, project document, RLA/02/P50/USA, Geneva, September 3, 2002, 6-7.

⁵⁰⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Bolivia," Section 6d.

⁵⁰⁹ *Ibid.* See also Erick Roth U. and Erik Fernandez R., *Evaluación del tráfico de mujeres, adolescentes y niños/as en Bolivia*, IOM, OAS, and Scientific Consulting SRL, La Paz, 2004, 10 and 51.

⁵¹⁰ UNICEF, *La niñez arrebatada: La explotación sexual comercial de niñas, niños y adolescentes en Bolivia*, 2004, 11. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Bolivia," Section 5.

⁵¹¹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Bolivia," Section 5. See also U.S. Department of State, "Bolivia (Tier 2 Watch List)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/65988.htm>. See also Roth U. and Erik Fernandez R., *Evaluación del tráfico de mujeres*, 51-52. See also U.S. Embassy- La Paz official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, April 2, 2007.

⁵¹² U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Bolivia," Section 5.

⁵¹³ Roth U. and Erik Fernandez R., *Evaluación del tráfico de mujeres*, 47.

⁵¹⁴ Government of Bolivia, *Ley del Código del Niño, Niña y Adolescente*, Ley No. 2026, (October 27, 1999), Article 126; available from <http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/docs/WEBTEXT/55837/68387/S99BOL01.htm>. See also Government of Bolivia, *Ley General de Trabajo*, (December 8, 1942), Article 58; available from <http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/docs/WEBTEXT/46218/65057/S92BOL01.htm#t4c6>.

apprenticeships.⁵¹⁵ Children 14 to 18 years must have the permission of their parents or of government authorities in order to work.⁵¹⁶ The law prohibits children 14 to 17 from taking part in hazardous activities such as carrying excessively heavy loads, working underground, working with pesticides and other chemicals, or working at night. The law also requires employers to grant time off to adolescent workers who have not completed their primary or secondary education so that they may attend school during normal school hours.⁵¹⁷ The law prohibits forced or compulsory labor.⁵¹⁸ The law also prohibits any kind of labor without consent and just compensation.⁵¹⁹ Bolivian men who have reached 18 are required to perform military service for 1 year. The law allows children 15 and older to volunteer for certain military activities if they have completed 3 years of secondary education.⁵²⁰

The law prohibits the prostitution of minors and imposes penalties of 4 to 9 years of imprisonment if the victim is under 18 years of age.⁵²¹ The Bolivian Congress has criminalized all types of trafficking, setting penalties at 8 to 12 years of imprisonment.⁵²²

The Ministry of Labor is responsible for enforcing child labor provisions. The ministry has 15 labor inspectors working throughout the country. Questions regarding child labor have been incorporated into the inspection checklists they use. Municipal Defender of Children and Adolescents offices, the Public Ministry, and the police also work to protect children's rights.⁵²³ Childhood and Adolescence Courts are empowered to resolve issues involving children and apply sanctions for violations of the law.⁵²⁴ The U.S. Department of State reported, however, that during 2006 the government did not enforce child labor laws, including those related to health and safety conditions in the workplace, school completion requirements, the legal minimum age, and the maximum hours allowed for child workers.⁵²⁵

The government has established special anti-trafficking police and prosecutor units in the major cities of Santa Cruz and Cochabamba.⁵²⁶ The Bolivian National Police command has issued the Technical Judicial Police Unit (PTJ) jurisdiction to investigate trafficking in persons,

⁵¹⁵ ILO, *Report of the Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations, Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138) Bolivia (ratification: 1997)*, ILO Conference, 75th session, Geneva, 2004; available from <http://webfusion.ilo.org/public/db/standards/normes/appl/index.cfm?lang=EN>.

⁵¹⁶ Government of Bolivia, *Ley General de Trabajo*, Article 8.

⁵¹⁷ Government of Bolivia, *Ley del Código del Niño*, 134, 146, 147.

⁵¹⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Bolivia," Section 6d.

⁵¹⁹ Government of Bolivia, *Constitución Política del Estado*, Article 5.

⁵²⁰ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Bolivia," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, London, 2004; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=811.

⁵²¹ Government of Bolivia, *Ley 3325: Trata y Trafico de Personas y Otros Delitos Relacionados*, (January 18, 2006); available from <http://www.bolivialegal.com/modules/Sileg/pdfphp.php?numero=6&dbname=slb402>.

⁵²² U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Bolivia."

⁵²³ U.S. Embassy- La Paz, *reporting*, August 30, 2005, 1-2. See also Vice Minister of Labor, Interview with USDOL official, September 13, 2005. See also U.S. Embassy- La Paz official, "E-mail communication to, April 2, 2007.

⁵²⁴ Government of Bolivia, *Written communication*, submitted in response to U.S. Department of Labor Federal Register Notice (July 25, 2005) "Request for Information on Efforts by Certain Countries to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor", Washington, DC, August 31, 2005.

⁵²⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Bolivia," Section 6d.

⁵²⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Bolivia."

corruption of minors, torturous corruption, pimping, publications and public showings of obscenity, and slavery.⁵²⁷

The U.S. Department of State noted progress in the government's increased resolve to combat trafficking and a heightened awareness of the problem. However, it also noted the government's failure to improve its capacity to prosecute traffickers and provide protection services to victims.⁵²⁸

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Government of Bolivia's policy framework to address child labor is the National Plan for the Progressive Eradication of Child Labor 2000-2010.⁵²⁹ A 3-year sub-plan (2006-2008) to combat child labor prioritizes the elimination of the worst forms of child labor, the development of national policy against child labor, the participation of child and adolescent workers, and inter-institutional and inter-ministerial coordination. The sub-plan will focus its efforts on children working in the mining, sugarcane, and urban sectors of the country.⁵³⁰ An independent evaluation conducted on the implementation of the first half of the National Plan found that financing has been lacking.⁵³¹

The government has engaged in a public information campaign against child prostitution and has promoted some educational efforts to combat trafficking, including the enactment of a decree that requires international airports to air a television segment on trafficking.⁵³² The Vice Ministry of Youth, Childhood, and Senior Citizens implements a Plan for the Prevention of and Attention to Commercial Sexual Exploitation, with a focus on efforts in the country's largest cities.⁵³³ The government has introduced systems to reduce corruption in the

⁵²⁷ U.S. Embassy- La Paz, *reporting*, February 23, 2006.

⁵²⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Bolivia."

⁵²⁹ Inter-Institutional Commission for the Eradication of Child Labor, *Plan de erradicación progresiva del trabajo infantil: 2000-2010*, Ministry of Labor, La Paz, November 2000, 35, 55. See also U.S. Embassy- La Paz official, "E-mail communication to, April 2, 2007.

⁵³⁰ Ministry of Labor, *Plan trienal nacional de erradicación progresiva del trabajo infantil 2006-2008*, La Paz, October 2005, p 5-6 and Sections 7.3.1., 7.3.2., and 7.3.3.; available from http://www.oit.org.pe/ipec/documentos/plan_triennial_bol.pdf. See also Government of Bolivia, *Convenio de Cooperación Interinstitucional e Interministerial entre el Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores y Culto, Ministerio de Trabajo, Ministerio de Salud y Deportes, Ministerio de Educación, Ministerio de Desarrollo Sostenible, Ministerio de Minería y Metalurgia, Ministerio de Asuntos Campesinos y Agropecuarios, Confederación de Empresarios Privados de Bolivia y Central Obrera Boliviana.*, (December 9, 2005); available from http://www.oit.org.pe/ipec/boletin/documentos/convenio_marco_bol_eti.pdf.

⁵³¹ Aguirre Ledezma, *Plan Nacional de erradicación progresiva del trabajo infantil: Evaluación externa*, 36.

⁵³² U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Bolivia." See also U.S. Department of State, "Bolivia," in *Trafficking in Persons Interim Assessment*, Washington, DC, January 19, 2007; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/rpt/78948.htm>.

⁵³³ Aguirre Ledezma, *Plan Nacional de erradicación progresiva del trabajo infantil: Evaluación externa*, 22, 31.

authorization of travel abroad by unaccompanied by minors.⁵³⁴ The government also operates a telephone hotline to report trafficking in children.⁵³⁵

The Government of Bolivia is working with NGOs and foreign governments to provide free birth registration and identity documentation to citizens in order to facilitate their access to social services, such as education, and reduce their vulnerability to trafficking.⁵³⁶ The IOM has identified child labor and teenage female sexual exploitation as a serious problem in Bolivia, and is working with the government to implement projects that address the trafficking of women and minors and to build the country's capacity to prevent it.⁵³⁷

The government participated in a USDOL-funded USD 1.5 million 4-year project, which ended in September, to improve the quality of and access to basic education for children engaged in mining in Bolivia. The project withdrew 101 children from exploitive labor in small-scale mining and prevented an additional 29 from becoming engaged in such activities.⁵³⁸

In October 2006, the government announced a cash subsidy program for all primary school students conditioned on school attendance. The government intends to promote access to education and prevent children from entering work situations by providing their families with a stipend at the beginning of the school year and again at the end if the child completes the school term.⁵³⁹

⁵³⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Bolivia," Section 5. See also U.S. Department of State, "Bolivia," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2005*, Washington, DC, March 8, 2005, Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2005/61717.htm>.

⁵³⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Bolivia," Section 5. See also U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Bolivia."

⁵³⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Bolivia," section 5.

⁵³⁷ International Organization for Migration, *Bolivia*, [online] [cited October 17, 2006]; available from <http://www.iom.int/jahia/page447.html>.

⁵³⁸ CARE, *Combating Child Labor in Bolivia Through Education*, project document, 2002. See also CARE, *Combating Child Labor Through Education: Technical Progress Report*, April 22, 2006.

⁵³⁹ U.S. Embassy- La Paz official, "E-mail communication to, April 2, 2007.

Bosnia and Herzegovina

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2000, approximately 19.3 percent of boys and 15.7 percent of girls 5 to 14 were working in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH).⁵⁴⁸ Children occasionally assist their families with farm work and various jobs.⁵⁴⁹

A significant number of children, especially ethnic Roma, live or work on the streets and are often

forced to do harmful and exploitive work such as participating in begging rings.⁵⁵⁰ Roma children as young as 4 years have been known to beg on the streets, especially in larger cities.⁵⁵¹ The majority of these children are under 14; most of the children do not attend school.⁵⁵²

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 2000:	17.5% ⁵⁴⁰
Minimum age for admission to work:	15 ⁵⁴¹
Age to which education is compulsory:	15 ⁵⁴²
Free public education:	Yes ^{543*}
Gross primary enrollment rate:	Unavailable
Net primary enrollment rate:	Unavailable
Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 2000:	76.3% ⁵⁴⁴
Percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	Unavailable
Ratified Convention 138:	6/2/1993 ⁵⁴⁵
Ratified Convention 182:	10/5/2001 ⁵⁴⁶
ILO-IPEC participating country:	No ⁵⁴⁷
*Must pay for school supplies and related items.	

⁵⁴⁰ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, October 7, 2005.

⁵⁴¹ Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina, *Decree on Promulgation of the Law on Amendments to the Labour Law*, No. 01-447/2000, (August 15, 2000), Article 12. See also Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina, *The Labor Law (RS)*, (November 8, 2000), Article 14.

⁵⁴² U.S. Department of State, "Bosnia and Herzegovina," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78804.htm>.

⁵⁴³ *Ibid.*

⁵⁴⁴ UCW, *Country Statistics*, accessed November 1, 2006; available from http://www.ucw-project.org/cgi-bin/ucw/Survey/Main.sql?come=Tab_Type_and_Country.sql&ID_COUNTRY=27&IDGruppo=-1&Type=-1&ID_SURVEY=169.

⁵⁴⁵ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, [database online] [cited November 14, 2006]; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/cgi-lex/ratifce.pl?Bosnia>.

⁵⁴⁶ *Ibid.*

⁵⁴⁷ ILO, *IPEC Action Against Child Labour: Highlights 2006*, Geneva, October 2006; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ipcc/prod/eng/20061019_Implementationreport_eng_Web.pdf.

⁵⁴⁸ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

⁵⁴⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Bosnia and Herzegovina." Section 6c.

⁵⁵⁰ U.S. Embassy- Sarajevo, *reporting*, March 7, 2007. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Bosnia and Herzegovina." Section 5.

⁵⁵¹ *Ibid.*

⁵⁵² United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Concluding Observations on the Rights of the Child, Bosnia and Herzegovina*, CRC/C/15/Add.260, September 21, 2005, Paragraphs 57 and 65; available from [http://www.unhcr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/898586b1dc7b4043c1256a450044f331/dd9baddc520d9878c1257018002db47e/\\$FILE/G0544039.pdf](http://www.unhcr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/898586b1dc7b4043c1256a450044f331/dd9baddc520d9878c1257018002db47e/$FILE/G0544039.pdf).

Children in Bosnia and Herzegovina have been trafficked for sexual exploitation and occasionally for labor; those who transited to the country generally continued on to Croatia.⁵⁵³ Roma children, in particular, have been known to be trafficked into and within the country for forced labor.⁵⁵⁴

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The 1995 Dayton Accords (formally known as the General Framework Agreement for Peace [GFAP]) established two distinct entities within Bosnia and Herzegovina: the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina (FBiH) and Republika Srpska (RS).⁵⁵⁵ BiH constitutional law supersedes entity laws where provisions are not uniform.⁵⁵⁶

The minimum age for work in both FBiH and RS is 15 years.⁵⁵⁷ In both FBiH and RS, minors 15 to 18 must provide a valid health certificate in order to work.⁵⁵⁸ Both entities prohibit minors from performing overtime work.⁵⁵⁹ The law also prohibits minors from working jobs that could have harmful effects on their health, life, or psychophysical development.⁵⁶⁰ Night work by minors is banned, although temporary exemptions may be granted by the labor inspectorate in cases of machine breakdowns, *force majeure*, and threats to the country's two political entities.⁵⁶¹ In both FBiH and RS, employers found in violation of the above prohibitions must pay a fine.⁵⁶²

The law prohibits forced or compulsory labor, including by children.⁵⁶³ The minimum age for compulsory military service in FBiH is 18; it is 16 years in times of war. In RS, the minimum age for compulsory military service is 18. For voluntary military service in both entities, 17 is the minimum age.⁵⁶⁴

⁵⁵³ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Bosnia and Herzegovina." Section 5 and 6c.

⁵⁵⁴ *Ibid.*, Section 5.

⁵⁵⁵ U.S. Department of State, *Background Note: Bosnia and Herzegovina*, [online] September 2006 [cited November 2, 2006]; available from <http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/bgn/2868.htm>.

⁵⁵⁶ Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina, *Constitution of Bosnia and Herzegovina*, Article III, Section 3, para. b., (December 14, 1995); available from http://www.ohr.int/print/?content_id=372.

⁵⁵⁷ Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina, *Decree on Promulgation of the Law on Amendments to the Labor Law*, Article 12. See also Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina, *The Labor Law (RS)*, Article 14.

⁵⁵⁸ *Ibid.*

⁵⁵⁹ Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina, *The Labour Law (FBiH)*, Issue No. 43, (October 28, 1999), Articles 15, 32, and 51. See also Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina, *The Labor Law (RS)*, Articles 12, 41, and 69.

⁵⁶⁰ Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina, *The Labour Law (FBiH)*, Articles 15 and 51. See also Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina, *The Labor Law (RS)*, Article 69.

⁵⁶¹ Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina, *The Labour Law (FBiH)*, Article 36. See also Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina, *The Labor Law (RS)*, Article 46.

⁵⁶² Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina, *Decree on Promulgation of the Law on Amendments to the Labor Law*, Article 49. See also Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina, *The Labor Law (RS)*, Article 150.

⁵⁶³ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Bosnia and Herzegovina." Section 6c.

⁵⁶⁴ U.S. Central Intelligence Agency, *The World Factbook: Military Service Age and Obligation*, [online] [cited November 3, 2006]; available from <https://www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook/geos/bk.html>.

The BiH Criminal Code forbids any form of trafficking with the consequential punishments ranging from 1 to 10 years.⁵⁶⁵ Under the Criminal Codes of the two entities, procuring a juvenile or seeking opportunity for illicit sexual relations with a juvenile is specifically prohibited and is punishable with up to 5 years imprisonment.⁵⁶⁶ In FBiH, persons caught recruiting or luring juvenile females into prostitution face imprisonment of between 1 and 10 years.⁵⁶⁷ Under the RS Criminal Code, imprisonment of 1 to 12 years is authorized for individuals who, for profit, compel or lure persons under the age of 21 into offering sexual services, including by threat or use of force or by taking advantage of a persons' stay in another country.⁵⁶⁸

FBiH and RS entity governments are responsible for enforcing child labor laws; however, neither FBiH nor RS have dedicated child labor inspectors. Rather, violations of child labor laws are investigated as part of a general labor inspection. According to both entities' labor inspectorates, no significant violations of child labor laws were found in the workplace in 2005, the most recent date that such information is available. However, investigation of children working on family farms was not conducted.⁵⁶⁹

The State Prosecutor's Office has sole jurisdiction over all trafficking cases and has the authority to decide which cases to prosecute at the state level and which ones to send to the entity level.⁵⁷⁰

In 2006, the most recent date for which such information is available, of the 90 cases investigated and submitted to prosecutors, the courts handed down 32 verdicts, 21 of which resulted in convictions. Of the 21 convictions, 12 convicted traffickers received suspended sentences. The length of sentences imposed by the courts increased slightly from the previous year. One convicted trafficker was sentenced to 8 years' imprisonment for trafficking and 6 years for money laundering, the longest sentence ever imposed for trafficking offenses in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The judge also ordered seizure of the trafficker's apartment and payment of compensation to the victim. Police, prosecutors, and the anti-trafficking strike force coordinated their efforts in 2006, resulting in a successful raid of three well-known bars

⁵⁶⁵ Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina, *Criminal Code of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Article 186*, (March 2003); available from <http://www.legislationline.org/upload/legislations/38/85/b7c52e8a5d1d8aa1178b3e3fc470.htm>. See also U.S. Embassy- Sarajevo, *reporting, March 7, 2007*.

⁵⁶⁶ Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina, *Statute of the Brcko District of Bosnia and Herzegovina*, (September 2000), Article 209; available from <http://www.ohr.int/ohr-dept/legal/const/doc/brcko-statute.doc>. See also Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina, *Criminal Code of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina*, (November 20, 1998), Articles 224 and 228; available from http://www.ohr.int/ohr-dept/legal/crim-codes/default.asp?content_id=5130. See also Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina, *Criminal Code of the Republika Srpska*, (July 31, 2000), Article 185; available from http://www.ohr.int/ohr-dept/legal/crim-codes/default.asp?content_id=5129.

⁵⁶⁷ Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina, *Criminal Code (FBiH)*, Articles 224 and 229.

⁵⁶⁸ Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina, *Criminal Code (RS)*, Article 188.

⁵⁶⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Bosnia and Herzegovina." Section 6c.

⁵⁷⁰ *Ibid.*, Section 5.

in central Bosnia.⁵⁷¹ According to the U.S. Department of State, corruption among government officials has made it difficult to combat trafficking.⁵⁷²

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The government is collaborating with the IOM to implement anti-trafficking assistance and prevention programs within the country. These efforts include raising media and public awareness of trafficking.⁵⁷³ IOM has also assisted the government in its management of counter-trafficking efforts such as developing a network of shelters for protecting victims and in the prosecution of traffickers.⁵⁷⁴ The government has increased its efforts against trafficking by: establishing a victim referral system, drafting bylaws regarding domestic trafficking victims, working with local NGOs to provide services to trafficking victims, incorporating trafficking awareness training into the public school curriculum, and providing training for police, prosecutors, judges, teachers, and social workers.⁵⁷⁵

The State Border Service provided better training for its officers stationed at airports and border crossings on victim identification, interviewing techniques, and referral procedures. These officers have been given materials to consult to assist them in evaluating victims.⁵⁷⁶

During the year, the Bosnian government, along with local NGOs, implemented a referral system that links trafficking victims with available shelter services and legal assistance.⁵⁷⁷

UNICEF is working in FBiH to assess services available to trafficking victims to ensure that efforts to remove trafficked persons from exploitive situations does not result in further victimization.⁵⁷⁸ Specifically, UNICEF has worked to develop medical, legal, and counseling support services for children and minors.⁵⁷⁹

⁵⁷¹ U.S. Embassy- Sarajevo, reporting, August 2, 2007.

⁵⁷² U.S. Department of State, *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2005: Bosnia and Herzegovina*, Washington, D.C., June 3, 2005; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2005/46613.htm>.

⁵⁷³ IOM, *Counter-trafficking in BiH*, [online] [cited March 23, 2007]; available from <http://www.iom.ba/CT4.html>.

⁵⁷⁴ Ibid.

⁵⁷⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Bosnia and Herzegovina." Section 5.

⁵⁷⁶ U.S. Department of State, *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Bosnia and Herzegovina*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/65988.htm>.

⁵⁷⁷ U.S. Embassy- Sarajevo, reporting, August 2005, Section 3.

⁵⁷⁸ UNICEF, *FACTSHEET: TRAFFICKING The facts*, [online] [cited November 3, 2006]; available from <http://www.unicef.org/protection/trafficking.pdf>.

⁵⁷⁹ Ibid.

Botswana

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Children in Botswana are employed in agriculture, predominately subsistence farming, and family businesses.⁵⁸⁹ In remote areas, young children also work as domestic servants.⁵⁹⁰ Anecdotal evidence suggests that some children are exploited in prostitution.⁵⁹¹ In addition, there are unconfirmed reports that Botswana is a country of transit for children trafficked into South Africa.⁵⁹²

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working:	Unavailable
Minimum age for admission to work:	14 ⁵⁸⁰
Age to which education is compulsory:	Not compulsory ⁵⁸¹
Free public education:	No ⁵⁸²
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:	105% ⁵⁸³
Net primary enrollment rate in 2004:	82% ⁵⁸⁴
Percent of children 5-14 attending school:	Unavailable
As of 2003, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	91% ⁵⁸⁵
Ratified Convention 138:	6/5/1997 ⁵⁸⁶
Ratified Convention 182:	1/3/2000 ⁵⁸⁷
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Yes, associated ⁵⁸⁸

⁵⁸⁰ U.S. Embassy- Gaborone, *reporting*, December 5, 2006, Para. 2.

⁵⁸¹ U.S. Department of State, "Botswana," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78720.htm>.

⁵⁸² *Ibid.* See also U.S. Embassy- Gaborone, *reporting*, December 5, 2006, Para. 8.

⁵⁸³ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

⁵⁸⁴ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Rate. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

⁵⁸⁵ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Survival Rate to Grade 5. Total*, accessed December 18, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

⁵⁸⁶ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, accessed September 25, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/docs/declAFpr.htm>.

⁵⁸⁷ *Ibid.*

⁵⁸⁸ ILO-IPEC, *IPEC Action Against Child Labour-Highlights 2006*, Geneva, October 2006; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ippec/prod/eng/20061019_Implementationreport_eng_Web.pdf.

⁵⁸⁹ Duma Gideon Boko, *Scoping Study on Child Labour in Botswana*, Dawie Bosch and Associates, Pretoria, August 2003, 10.

⁵⁹⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Botswana," Sections 5 and 6d.

⁵⁹¹ *Ibid.*, Section 5. See also U.S. Embassy- Gaborone official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, May 26, 2005.

⁵⁹² U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Botswana," Section 5. See also ECPAT International CSEC Database, *Botswana*, accessed September 22, 2006; available from <http://www.ecpat.net>.

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum age for basic employment at 14 years, and for hazardous work, at 18 years.⁵⁹³ Under the law, children not attending school who have attained the age of 14 may be employed by family members, or as approved by the Commissioner of Labor, in light work that is not harmful to their health and development and for no more than 6 hours per day and 30 hours per week.⁵⁹⁴ Children, defined as those under 15 years, and young persons, defined as those between 15 and 17 years, may not be employed in underground work, night work, or any work that is harmful to their health and development.⁵⁹⁵ Children may not work more than 3 consecutive hours, and young persons more than 4 hours, in industrial undertakings without a rest period of 30 minutes, absent the express permission of the Commissioner of Labor.⁵⁹⁶

The law prohibits forced labor, although it does not specifically mention children.⁵⁹⁷ The law does not explicitly prohibit trafficking in persons, although separate statutes make kidnapping, slave trafficking, and procuring women and girls for prostitution illegal.⁵⁹⁸ Child prostitution and pornography are criminal offenses, and "defilement" of persons less than 16 years is punishable by a 10-year minimum prison sentence.⁵⁹⁹ The law specifically protects adopted children from being exploited for labor, and orphans from being coerced into prostitution.⁶⁰⁰ Military service is voluntary and the minimum age for enlisting in the armed forces is 18 years.⁶⁰¹

The Ministry of Labor and Home Affairs is tasked with enforcing child labor laws.⁶⁰² Although its resources for oversight of remote areas in the country were limited, the Ministry was, in general, effective.⁶⁰³ The law authorizes the Commissioner of Labor to terminate the unlawful employment of children.⁶⁰⁴ The child welfare divisions of the district and municipal councils are also responsible for enforcing child labor laws.⁶⁰⁵ The maximum penalty for illegally employing a child is imprisonment for up to 12 months, a fine, or a combination of both.⁶⁰⁶

⁵⁹³ U.S. Embassy- Gaborone, *reporting, December 5, 2006*, Para. 2.

⁵⁹⁴ Government of Botswana, *Botswana Employment Act*, Para. 107; available from <http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/docs/WEBTEXT/842/64792/E82BWA01.htm#p11>. See also U.S. Embassy- Gaborone, *reporting, December 5, 2006*, Para. 2.

⁵⁹⁵ Government of Botswana, *Botswana Employment Act*, Paras. 2, 108, 109 and 110. See also Duma Gideon Boko, *Scoping Study on Child Labour in Botswana*, 5.

⁵⁹⁶ Government of Botswana, *Botswana Employment Act*, Para. 111.

⁵⁹⁷ *Ibid.*, Part VI, Para. 71.

⁵⁹⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Botswana," Section 5.

⁵⁹⁹ *Ibid.* See also Interpol, *Legislation of Interpol Member States on Sexual Offences Against Children: Botswana*, [online] 2006 [cited September 25, 2006]; available from <http://www.interpol.int/Public/Children/SexualAbuse/NationalLaws/csaBotswana.asp>.

⁶⁰⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Botswana," Section 6d.

⁶⁰¹ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Botswana," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, London, 2004; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=759.

⁶⁰² U.S. Embassy- Gaborone, *reporting, December 5, 2006*, Para. 4. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Botswana," Section 6d.

⁶⁰³ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Botswana," Section 6d.

⁶⁰⁴ Government of Botswana, *Botswana Employment Act*, Para. 110.

⁶⁰⁵ U.S. Embassy- Gaborone, *reporting, December 5, 2006*, Para. 4.

⁶⁰⁶ *Ibid.*, para 4.

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Government of Botswana is working with ILO-IPEC on a USDOL-funded regional child labor project in Southern Africa. Activities under this USD 5 million project in Botswana include research on the nature and incidence of exploitive child labor and efforts to build the capacity of the government to address child labor issues.⁶⁰⁷ The American Institutes for Research, with the support of the Government of Botswana, is implementing another regional USDOL-funded project. This USD 9 million project has been designed to combat the worst forms of child labor through the provision of quality, accessible education for children working or at-risk of working.⁶⁰⁸ This project aims to prevent 1,625 children from engaging in exploitive labor in Botswana.⁶⁰⁹

The government included a module on children's activities in its 2005/2006 national labor force survey. The preliminary results of the survey will help identify the extent and location of child labor in Botswana.⁶¹⁰

⁶⁰⁷ ILO-IPEC, *Supporting the Timebound Programme to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour in South Africa's Child Labour Action Programme and Laying the Basis for Concerted Action Against Worst Forms of Child Labour in Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia and Swaziland*, project document, Geneva, September, 2003, 38-39.

⁶⁰⁸ American Institutes for Research, *Reducing Exploitive Child Labor Southern Africa (RECLISA)*, project document, Washington, D.C., September 8, 2005, 1.

⁶⁰⁹ *Ibid.*, 20.

⁶¹⁰ U.S. Embassy- Gaborone, *reporting, December 5, 2006*, Para. 12. See also Government of Botswana, *Preliminary 2005/2006 Labour Force Survey Results*, Gaborone, November 2006, 6; available from <http://www.cso.gov.bw/>.

Brazil

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2004, approximately 7 percent of boys and 3.3 percent of girls 5 to 14 were working in Brazil. The majority of working children in Brazil were found in the agricultural sector (57.8 percent), followed by services (33.7 percent), manufacturing (7.2 percent) and other sectors (1.4 percent).⁶²¹

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 2004:	5.2% ⁶¹¹
Minimum age for admission to work:	16 ⁶¹²
Age to which education is compulsory:	14 ⁶¹³
Free public education:	Yes ⁶¹⁴
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2002:	147% ⁶¹⁵
Net primary enrollment rate in 2002:	97% ⁶¹⁶
Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 2003:	93.6% ⁶¹⁷
Percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	Unavailable
Ratified Convention 138:	6/28/2001 ⁶¹⁸
Ratified Convention 182:	2/2/2000 ⁶¹⁹
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Yes ⁶²⁰

Child labor is more prevalent in northeastern Brazil than in any other region, and it is equally common in rural and urban areas throughout the country.⁶²² More minors of African descent

⁶¹¹ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, March 1, 2007, Articles 227-231.

⁶¹² ILOLEX, *C138 Minimum Age Convention, 1973*, accessed October 12, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/cgi-lex/pdconv.pl?host=status01&textbase=iloeng&document=6962&chapter=19&query=C138%40ref&highlight=&querytype=bool>.

⁶¹³ Casa Civil Presidência da República, Subchefia para Assuntos Jurídicos, *LEI N. 11.274, de 6 de Fevereiro de 2006, Article 32*, [online] 2006 [cited October 21, 2006]; available from https://www.planalto.gov.br/ccivil_03/_Ato2004-2006/2006/Lei/L11274.htm.

⁶¹⁴ Ibid. See also U.S. Department of State, "Brazil," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78882.htm>.

⁶¹⁵ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

⁶¹⁶ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Rate. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

⁶¹⁷ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Survival Rate to Grade 5. Total*, accessed December 18, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

⁶¹⁸ ILOLEX, *C138 Minimum Age Convention, 1973*.

⁶¹⁹ ILOLEX, *C182 Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999*, accessed October 12, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/cgi-lex/pdconv.pl?host=status01&textbase=iloeng&document=6702&chapter=19&query=C182%40ref&highlight=&querytype=bool>.

⁶²⁰ ILO-IPEC, *IPEC Action Against Child Labour Highlights 2006*, Geneva, February, 2007; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ippec/prod/eng/20070228_Implementationreport_en_Web.pdf.

⁶²¹ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

⁶²² Ministry of Labor and Employment, *Mapa de Indicativos do Trabalho da Criança e do Adolescente*, [online], 2005.

are working than of any other race or ethnicity.⁶²³ Children work in approximately 116 activities, including mining; fishing; raising livestock; producing charcoal and footwear; and harvesting corn, manioc, sugarcane, sisal and other crops in rural areas. In urban areas, common activities for working children include shining shoes, street peddling, begging, and working in restaurants, construction, and transportation.⁶²⁴ The Federal Labor Prosecutor's Office estimates that 1.2 million minors are employed as domestic servants in Brazil, which it estimates to correspond to more than 20 percent of all working children.⁶²⁵ Other children and adolescents work as trash pickers,⁶²⁶ drug traffickers,⁶²⁷ and prostitutes,⁶²⁸ including in sex tourism and pornography.⁶²⁹

Girls were trafficked domestically and overseas for commercial sexual exploitation to other South American countries, the United States, and Western Europe.⁶³⁰ Boys were trafficked internally as slave laborers.⁶³¹

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The minimum age for general employment in Brazil is 16 years, and the minimum age for apprenticeships is 14 years.⁶³² Minors who work as apprentices are required to attend school through the primary grades and to provide proof of parental permission to work.⁶³³ The law prohibits employees under 18 from working in unhealthy, dangerous, and arduous conditions; for long hours that impede school attendance; at night; or in settings where their physical, moral, or social well-being is adversely affected.⁶³⁴

Adult prostitution is legal in Brazil,⁶³⁵ but inducing a child 14 to 18 years to participate in prostitution is punishable by imprisonment of 3 to 8 years and fines, and in cases of violence or fraud, 4 to 10 years and fines. Running a brothel is punishable by 2 to 5 years of

⁶²³ Ibid.

⁶²⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Brazil," Section 6d. See also CONAETI, *Lista Tip*, Brasilia, October 2, 2006.

⁶²⁵ Public Labor Ministry, *Trabalho Doméstico*, [online] 2006 [cited October 21, 2006]; available from <http://spider.pgt.mpt.gov.br:8080/pgtgc/publicacao/engine.wsp?tmp.area=291>.

⁶²⁶ Public Labor Ministry, *Lixões*, [online] 2006 [cited October 21, 2006]; available from <http://spider.pgt.mpt.gov.br:8080/pgtgc/publicacao/engine.wsp?tmp.area=292>.

⁶²⁷ Public Labor Ministry, *Tráfico de drogas*, [online] 2006 [cited October 21, 2006]; available from <http://spider.pgt.mpt.gov.br:8080/pgtgc/publicacao/engine.wsp?tmp.area=290>.

⁶²⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Brazil," Sections 5 and 6d.

⁶²⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Brazil (Tier 2 Watch List)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Brazil*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2005/46613.htm>. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Brazil," Section 5.

⁶³⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Brazil," Section 5.

⁶³¹ Ibid.

⁶³² ILO Committee of Experts, *Direct Request, Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138) Brazil*, [online], 2005; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/newcountryframeE.htm>.

⁶³³ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Brazil," Section 6d.

⁶³⁴ Federal Labor Prosecutor's Office, *Legislação*, [online] [cited October 22, 2006]; available from <http://www.spider.pgt.mpt.gov.br:8080/pgtgc/publicacao/engine.wsp?tmp.area=286>.

⁶³⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Brazil," Section 5.

imprisonment and fines.⁶³⁶ The law also provides for fines and prison terms of 4 to 10 years for anyone convicted of trafficking children 14 to 18 internally or across national borders for prostitution, with penalties of 5 to 12 years in cases of violence or fraud.⁶³⁷ The law does not address forced labor directly, but establishes imprisonment from 2 to 8 years and a fine for subjecting a person to slave-like conditions, with penalties increasing by one-half if the crime is committed against a child. Transporting workers by force from one locale to another within the national territory is punishable by imprisonment for 1 to 3 years and fines; penalties increase by one-sixth to one-third if the victim is under 18.⁶³⁸ The minimum age for conscription into the military service is 18 years, or 17 years on a voluntary basis.⁶³⁹

The MLE is responsible for inspecting work sites for child labor violations.⁶⁴⁰ Inspections increasingly target informal employment, in part because of the declining number of children working in the formal sector.⁶⁴¹ The MLE's labor inspectors, stationed in 26 regional offices, continue to carry out unannounced child labor inspections throughout the year.⁶⁴² Most inspections result from complaints to labor inspectors by workers, NGOs, teachers, the media, and other sources.⁶⁴³ Employers who violate Brazil's child labor laws are subject to monetary fines, but inspectors typically negotiate agreements to have employers desist from labor law violations before levying fines.⁶⁴⁴ The Labor Inspection Secretariat reported that between January and August 2006, 8,326 children were removed from exploitive labor situations.⁶⁴⁵

MLE labor inspectors often work closely with prosecutors from the Federal Labor Prosecutor's Office (MPT).⁶⁴⁶ MPT prosecutors may investigate cases of child labor, bring charges against violators, and levy fines.⁶⁴⁷ In many municipalities, labor inspectors and prosecutors are aided by a network of legally-mandated Guardianship Councils that serve as reference centers for at-

⁶³⁶ Government of Brazil, *Código Penal Brasil*, Lei No. 2,848, modified by Lei No. 9,777 of 1998; available from http://www.oas.org/juridico/mla/pt/bra/pt_bra-int-text-cp.pdf.

⁶³⁷ *Ibid.*

⁶³⁸ *Decreto-Lei 2,848*, (December 7.), Articles 149 and 207; available from https://www.presidencia.gov.br/ccivil_03/Decreto-Lei/Del2848.htm.

⁶³⁹ Government of Brazil, *Lei do Serviço Militar*, Lei 4.375 de 17/08/1964, (August 17, 1964), articles 3 and 5; available from <http://www.defesa.gov.br/enternet/sitios/internet/disemi/lsm.html>. See also Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Brazil," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, London, 2004.

⁶⁴⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Brazil," Section 6d.

⁶⁴¹ ILO-IPEC, *Análise e recomendações para a melhor regulamentação e cumprimento da normativa nacional e internacional sobre o trabalho de crianças e adolescentes no Brasil*, Brasília, 2003, 30; available from http://www.oit.org.pe/spanish/260ameri/oitreg/activid/proyectos/ipecc/doc/estudios/brasil_171.pdf. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Brazil," Section 6d.

⁶⁴² ILO-IPEC, *Eliminating the Worst Forms of Child Labor in Brazil - Support for the Time-Bound Program on the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor, technical progress report*, ILO, Geneva, August, 2006, 5.

⁶⁴³ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Brazil," Section 6d.

⁶⁴⁴ *Ibid.*

⁶⁴⁵ ILO-IPEC, *Eliminating the Worst Forms of Child Labor in Brazil - Support for the Time-bound Program on the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor*, technical progress report, Geneva, August 2006, 12.

⁶⁴⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Brazil," Section 6d. See also Federal Labor Prosecutor's Office, *¿O Que é o MPT?*, [online] [cited October 22, 2006]; available from <http://www.pgt.mpt.gov.br/>. See also Federal Labor Prosecutor's Office, *Trabalho Infantil*, [online] 2006 [cited October 22, 2006]; available from <http://spider.pgt.mpt.gov.br:8080/pgtgc/publicacao/engine.wsp?tmp.area=258>.

⁶⁴⁷ Federal Labor Prosecutor's Office, *¿O Que é o MPT?* See also Federal Labor Prosecutor's Office, *Trabalho Infantil*. See also U.S. Department of State, "Brazil," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2005*, Washington, DC, March 8, 2006, Section 6d; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2005/61718.htm>.

risk children and adolescents. By 2003, of the 5,578 municipalities, only 3,477 had established such councils. The lack of greater compliance with the law has been blamed on lack of resources and political will at the local level.⁶⁴⁸

Government authorities involved in combating trafficking include the Ministry of Social Assistance (MDS), the Special Human Rights Secretariat (SEDH), the Ministry of Labor and Employment (MLE), the Ministry of Justice, and the Ministry of Tourism.⁶⁴⁹ The Federal Police continues to address trafficking for the purpose of sexual exploitation with their counterparts in Portugal, Spain, Italy, the Netherlands, Sweden, Mexico, and the United States.⁶⁵⁰ The U.S. Department of State has noted Brazil's failure to pass anti-trafficking legislation and to assign effective criminal penalties against traffickers.⁶⁵¹

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

Brazil's National Commission to Eradicate Child Labor (CONAETI), composed of members from the federal government, worker and employer organizations, and civil society,⁶⁵² is implementing the 2004-2007 National Plan to Eradicate Child Labor.⁶⁵³ A CONAETI sub-commission has revised the country's list of the worst forms of child labor, as stipulated by ILO Convention No. 182 on the Worst Forms of Child Labor. The Child-Friendly President Action Plan 2004-2007, which includes efforts to combat child labor and commercial sexual exploitation, continues to operate.⁶⁵⁴

The principal program to remove children from working in the most hazardous forms of child labor is the Program to Eradicate Child Labor (PETI), administered by the Ministry of Social Development and Combating Hunger (MDS) in conjunction with state and local authorities.⁶⁵⁵ Through PETI, families with children working in select hazardous activities receive stipends to remove their children from work and maintain them in school.⁶⁵⁶ In addition, PETI offers an after-school program to prevent children from working during non-school hours, which

⁶⁴⁸ United Nations Economic and Social Council, *Rights of the Child: Addendum on Mission to Brazil*, New York, February 3, 2004.

⁶⁴⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Brazil," Section 5.

⁶⁵⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Brazil."

⁶⁵¹ *Ibid.* See also U.S. Department of State, "Brazil," in *Trafficking in Persons Interim Assessment*, Washington, DC, 2007; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/rpt/78948.htm>.

⁶⁵² Government of Brazil, *Portaria No. 365, de 12 de Setembro de 2002*; available from http://www.trt02.gov.br/geral/Tribunal2/ORGAOS/MTE/Portaria/P365_02.htm.

⁶⁵³ Ministry of Labor and Employment, *Finalidade: Comissão Nacional de Erradicação do Trabalho Infantil (CONAETI)*, [online] 2006 [cited October 22, 2006]; available from <http://www.mte.gov.br/Empregador/FiscaTrab/CombateTrabalhoInfantil/CONAETI/Finalidade/Conteudo/7068.asp>. See also Ministry of Labor and Employment, *National Plan: Prevention and Eradication of Child Labor and Protection of Adolescent Workers*, 2004; available from <http://www.mte.gov.br/Empregador/FiscaTrab/Publicacao/Conteudo/6365.pdf>.

⁶⁵⁴ Special Secretary for Human Rights, *Plano Presidente Amigo da Criança e do Adolescente- 2004/2007: Relatório Anual de Acompanhamento (Jan/Dez de 2005)*, annual report, Brasília, May 2006; available from http://www.redeamiga.org.br/docs/ppaca_2005.pdf.

⁶⁵⁵ Ministry of Social Development and Combating Hunger, *Programa de Erradicação do Trabalho Infantil - PETI*, 2005 [cited May 15, 2007]; available from http://www.portaltransparencia.gov.br/curso_PETI.pdf.

⁶⁵⁶ *Ibid.*

provides tutoring, nutritional snacks and sports, art, and cultural activities. Children between 7 and 15 years are eligible to participate.⁶⁵⁷ The government is integrating PETI into the Family Stipend Program (see below). In addition, the MDS and the Ministry of Education are working to establish stronger standards and content for the PETI after-school program.⁶⁵⁸ At the end of 2006, the PETI program was offered in 3,296 municipalities and was providing stipends and services to approximately 1 million children and adolescents.⁶⁵⁹

While PETI focuses on removing children from hazardous work, the Family Stipend (*Bolsa Família*) program aims to prevent child labor and promote education by supplementing family income and encouraging at-risk children and adolescents to attend school regularly.⁶⁶⁰ The program provides a monthly monetary stipend to impoverished families who agree to keep their children in school and meet other requirements related to health and nutrition.⁶⁶¹

The MDS' Youth Agent of Social and Human Development (*Projeto Agente Jovem de Desenvolvimento Social e Humano*) program provides training in personal, social, community development and job skills for youth between 15 and 17 years and aims to reintegrate and retain them in school. The program targets adolescents who have "graduated" out of other social programs, including PETI. The program reached approximately 112,000 adolescents in 2006.⁶⁶²

The Government of Brazil, in coordination with ILO-IPEC, is implementing a USDOL-funded USD 6.5 million Timebound Program to eliminate the worst forms of child labor in domestic service, prostitution, hazardous work in agriculture, and other informal sector activities. The project aims to withdraw 4,026 children from exploitive labor and prevent an additional 1,974 from becoming involved in such activities.⁶⁶³ Another USDOL-funded USD 5 million program implemented by Partners of the Americas in coordination with the Government of Brazil aims to eliminate the worst forms of child labor in illicit drug cultivation and the commercial sexual exploitation of children through the provision of quality basic education in areas of northern

⁶⁵⁷ Ibid.

⁶⁵⁸ ILO-IPEC, *Brazil Time-Bound Program, August 2006 Technical Progress Report*, 3.

⁶⁵⁹ Presidência da República do Brasil, *Mensagem ao Congresso Nacional - 2007: Na Abertura da 1ª Sessão Legislativa Ordinária da 53ª Legislatura 2007* [cited May 15, 2007], 98; available from <http://www.presidencia.gov.br/noticias/publicacoes/2007/>.

⁶⁶⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Brazil," Section 6d.

⁶⁶¹ Casa Civil Presidência da República, Subchefia para Assuntos Jurídicos, *Lei N. 10.836, de 9 de Janeiro de 2004, Artigo 3*; available from http://www.planalto.gov.br/CCIVIL/_Ato2004-2006/2004/Lei/L10.836.htm. See also Zero Hunger, *Bolsa Família- Perguntas e Respostas*, 2005.

⁶⁶² Ministry of Social Development and Combating Hunger, *Projeto Agente Jovem de Desenvolvimento Social e Humano*, 2005. See also Agência de Notícias dos Direitos da Infância, "Prazo para cadastro no Agente Joven é prorrogado", [online], September 28, 2006; available from <http://www.andi.org.br/>. See also Presidência da República do Brasil, *Mensagem ao Congresso Nacional - 2007*, 103.

⁶⁶³ ILO-IPEC, *Eliminating the Worst Forms of Child Labor in Brazil - Support for the Time-bound Program on the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor*, project document, September 30, 2003. See also USDOL, ILAB *Technical Cooperation Project Summary: Eliminating the Worst Forms of Child Labor in Brazil-Support for the Time-bound Program on the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor*, project summary.

and northeastern Brazil. The project aims to withdraw 4,596 children from exploitive labor and prevent an additional 6,600 from becoming engaged in similar activities.⁶⁶⁴

The Government of Brazil and the other governments of MERCOSUL (the Brazilian acronym for the “Common Market of the South”) developed the “Niño Sur” (“Southern Child”) initiative to defend the rights of children and adolescents in the region. The initiative has three main areas of priority: the sexual exploitation of children and adolescents (including trafficking); child labor; and youth criminal justice. Action strategies include the harmonization of legal frameworks, unified public campaigns and joint actions in border cities.⁶⁶⁵

The National Plan to Fight Sexual Violence against Children and Adolescents provides the policy framework for the government programs to combat the commercial sexual exploitation of children and adolescents.⁶⁶⁶ A number of government agencies, including the SEDH, are carrying out initiatives to assist victims and raise awareness.⁶⁶⁷ The primary program to assist child victims of commercial sexual exploitation is the Social Assistance Specialized Reference Centers Program (CREAS). By the end of 2006, CREAS centers were established in 1,126 municipalities.⁶⁶⁸

In January 2006, with support from the Ministry of Tourism and the SEDH, World Vision launched a 6-month campaign against child sexual tourism in hotels and airports of eight state capitals. The main focus of the campaign was to combat impunity of foreigners involved in the commercial sexual exploitation of minors.⁶⁶⁹ The SEDH also implements a telephone hotline in every state for reporting sexual violence against children and adolescents.⁶⁷⁰

In October 2006, the president established a national-level anti-trafficking policy and an inter-ministerial working group charged with drafting a National Plan to Combat Trafficking in

⁶⁶⁴ Partners of the Americas, *EDUCAR Combating the Worst Forms of Child Labor through Education in Brazil*, project document, Washington, DC, August 20, 2003. See also USDOL, *ILAB Technical Cooperation Project Summary: EDUCAR-Combating the Worst Forms of Child Labor through Education in Brazil*, project summary.

⁶⁶⁵ Ministry of Justice, *Países do Mercosul anunciam campanha conjunta de Combate à Exploração Sexual de Crianças e Adolescentes*, [online] August 29, 2006 [cited October 21 2006]; available from http://www.mj.gov.br/sedh/ct/conanda/noticias2_teste.asp?id=1380. See also Ministry of Justice, *Combate à Exploração Sexual de Crianças e Adolescente é Meta no Mercosul*, [online] August 24, 2006 [cited October 21 2006]; available from http://www.mj.gov.br/sedh/ct/conanda/noticias2_teste.asp?id=1373.

⁶⁶⁶ United Nations Economic and Social Council, *Rights of the Child: Addendum on Mission to Brazil*, New York, February, 2004, 18.

⁶⁶⁷ National Secretariat for Human Rights, *Parcerias marcam Dia Nacional de Combate ao Abuso e à Violência Sexual Infante-Juvenil*, [online] 2004 [cited June 23, 2005]; available from <http://www.mj.gov.br/sedh/ct/conanda/noticias2.asp?id=161>.

⁶⁶⁸ Presidência da República do Brasil, *Mensagem ao Congresso Nacional - 2007*, 98. See also Ministry of Social Development and Combating Hunger-National Secretariat of Social Assistance, *Centro de Referencia Especializado de Assistencia Social - CREAS: Guia de Orientacao No. 1*, Brasilia, 2006, 7,10; available from www.assistenciasocial.rj.gov.br/pages/prot_soc_esp_oquee.asp

⁶⁶⁹ Agência de Notícias dos Direitos da Infância, "Governo dos Estados Unidos financia campanha contra exploracao sexual no Brasil", [online], September 28, 2006; available from <http://www.andi.org.br>.

⁶⁷⁰ ILO-IPEC, *Brazil Time-bound Program, August 2006 technical progress report*, 4. See also Agência de Notícias dos Direitos da Infância, "Disque-Denúncia amplia o horário de atendimento", [online], September 28, 2006; available from <http://www.andi.org.br/>.

Persons.⁶⁷¹ The policy provides a framework for the prevention of trafficking, the prosecution of violators, and the protection of trafficking victims.⁶⁷² The Ministry of Justice heads the inter-ministerial working group, which includes representatives from many federal agencies including the SEDH, the Special Secretariat for Women's Policy, The Special Secretariat for the Promotion of Racial Equality, the MDS, the Ministry of Health, the MLE, the Ministry of Education, and the Ministry of Tourism.⁶⁷³ Also in October 2006, the government launched a national trafficking database designed to document and analyze trafficking-related statistics more effectively.⁶⁷⁴

In November 2006, the Ministry of Justice initiated the second phase of a program managed by the UNODC that will design the National Plan to Combat Trafficking in Persons, raise awareness on the issue, and expand the country's database on trafficking victims and perpetrators. UNODC aims to expand project implementation to all Brazilian states, and it will locate centers in the principal national airports with personnel trained to receive possible trafficking victims.⁶⁷⁵

⁶⁷¹ U.S. Department of State, *Trafficking in Persons Interim Assessment: Brazil*, online, January 19 2007, [accessed January 30, 2007]; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/rpt/78948.htm>. See also Government of Brazil, *Decreto No. 5,948, de 26 de Outubro de 2006*, Articles 2 and 3.

⁶⁷² Government of Brazil, *Decreto No. 5,948, de 26 de Outubro de 2006*, Article 1 of Annex.

⁶⁷³ *Ibid.*, Article 3.

⁶⁷⁴ U.S. Department of State, *Trafficking in Persons Interim Assessment: Brazil*.

⁶⁷⁵ United Nations Office on Drug and Crime, *Trafico de Pessoas: Novo projeto do governo brasileiro com o UNODC*, [online] [cited April 3, 2007]; available from http://www.unodc.org/brazil/programasglobais_tsh.html?print=yes.

Burkina Faso

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2003, approximately 46.4 percent of boys and 47.4 percent of girls ages 5 to 14 were working in Burkina Faso. The majority of working children in Burkina Faso were found in the agricultural sector (97.4 percent), followed by services (2.0 percent), manufacturing (0.4 percent), and other sectors (0.2 percent).⁶⁸⁷

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 2003:	47.0% ⁶⁷⁶
Minimum age for admission to work:	15 ⁶⁷⁷
Age to which education is compulsory:	16 ⁶⁷⁸
Free public education:	Yes ^{679*}
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:	53% ⁶⁸⁰
Net primary enrollment rate in 2004:	40% ⁶⁸¹
Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 2003:	27.2% ⁶⁸²
As of 2003, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	76% ⁶⁸³
Ratified Convention 138:	11/02/1999 ⁶⁸⁴
Ratified Convention 182:	07/25/2001 ⁶⁸⁵
ILO-IPEC Participating Country:	Yes, associated ⁶⁸⁶
* Must pay for school supplies and related items.	

Burkina Faso is a source, transit, and destination country for children trafficked for the purpose of forced labor and commercial sexual exploitation.⁶⁸⁸ Children are trafficked to work

⁶⁷⁶ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, March 1, 2007.

⁶⁷⁷ Government of Burkina Faso, *Loi n° 033-2004/AN portant code du travail au Burkina Faso*, (September 14, 2004); available from http://www.legiburkina.bf/jo/jo2004/no_spécial_02/Loi_AN_2004_00033.htm.

⁶⁷⁸ Government of Burkina Faso, *Loi n° 13-96 ADP du 9 mai portant loi d'orientation de l'éducation*, (May 9, 1996), Article 2.

⁶⁷⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Burkina Faso," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78721.htm>.

⁶⁸⁰ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

⁶⁸¹ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Rate. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

⁶⁸² UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Survival Rate to Grade 5. Total*, accessed December 18, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

⁶⁸³ *Ibid.*

⁶⁸⁴ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, accessed October 19, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/cgi-lex/ratifice.pl?Burkina+Faso>.

⁶⁸⁵ *Ibid.*

⁶⁸⁶ ILO-IPEC, *IPEC Action Against Child Labor; Highlights 2006*, Geneva, 2006; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ippec/prod/eng/20070228_Implementationreport_en_Web.pdf.

⁶⁸⁷ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

⁶⁸⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Burkina Faso," Section 5.

in domestic service, street vending, agriculture, prostitution, mining and the quarry sector.⁶⁸⁹ Burkina Faso is a destination country for children trafficked from Nigeria and Mali.⁶⁹⁰ Children from Burkina Faso are trafficked into Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, and Togo.⁶⁹¹

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum age for employment at 15 years and prohibits children under 18 from working at night except in times of emergency.⁶⁹² The law also defines and prohibits the worst forms of child labor for children following ILO Convention 182. A decree lists the types of businesses in which children under 18 years may not work.⁶⁹³ Under the law, children and adolescents under 20 years may not undertake work that could harm their reproductive abilities.⁶⁹⁴ Slavery and slavery-like practices, inhumane and cruel treatment, and physical or emotional abuse of children are forbidden by the Labor Code.⁶⁹⁵ The law also prohibits forced and compulsory labor.⁶⁹⁶ The minimum age for voluntary recruitment into the military is 20 years, and for compulsory recruitment is 18 years.⁶⁹⁷

The law prohibits child trafficking for economic or sexual exploitation; illegal adoption; early or forced marriage; or any other purpose that is harmful to a child's health, well-being, or physical or mental development. Anyone who engages in child trafficking, or who is aware of a child trafficking case and does not report it, is subject to 1 to 5 years of imprisonment. The penalty is increased to 5 to 10 years of imprisonment if the child is under 15 years or if the act was committed using fraud or violence. The perpetrator is subject to a life sentence if the victim dies or is permanently disabled or if the purpose of the trafficking was for the removal of organs.⁶⁹⁸ In 2005, the police intercepted 1,253 trafficked children and arrested 44 child traffickers. Six traffickers have been sentenced to prison and two are awaiting trial in

⁶⁸⁹ ILO-IPEC, *Combating the Trafficking in Children for Labor Exploitation in West and Central Africa*, synthesis report, Abidjan, 2001; available from

<http://www.ilo.org/public/english/standards/ipecc/publ/field/africa/central.pdf>.

⁶⁹⁰ Government of Burkina Faso, *Code du travail*, Article 146 and 147.

⁶⁹¹ U.S. Department of State, "Burkina Faso (Tier 2)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/65988.htm>.

⁶⁹² Government of Burkina Faso, *Code du travail*, Articles 146, 147. See also Government of Burkina Faso, *Décret n° 2004-451-PRES du 15 octobre 2004 promulguant la loi n° 033-2004/AN du 14 septembre 2004 portant Code du travail*, (October 15, 2004); available from

http://www.legiburkina.bf/jo/jo2004/no_spécial_02/Décret_PRES_2004_00451.htm.

⁶⁹³ Government of Burkina Faso, *Code du travail*, Articles 147 and 148. See also ILO-IPEC, *Combating the Trafficking of Children for Labour Exploitation in West and Central Africa (LUTRENA) - Responses to ICLP Comments*, IPEC responses, Geneva, March 2005, 1.

⁶⁹⁴ Government of Burkina Faso, *Code du travail*, Article 145.

⁶⁹⁵ *Ibid.*, Article 148.

⁶⁹⁶ *Ibid.*, Articles 5 and 6.

⁶⁹⁷ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Burkina Faso," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, London, 2004; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=760.

⁶⁹⁸ Government of Burkina Faso, *Loi n° 038-2003/AN portant définition et répression du trafic d'enfant(s)*, (May 27, 2003), Articles 3-6; available from http://www.legiburkina.bf/jo/jo2003/no_31/Loi_AN_2003_00038.htm.

detention.⁶⁹⁹ However, reports indicate most traffickers are released by police after only a short stay in custody.⁷⁰⁰

The penal code forbids any involvement in the prostitution of persons and explicitly prohibits the prostitution of persons less than 18 years; such violations are punishable by 2 to 5 years of imprisonment and fines.⁷⁰¹ Contributing to the corruption or debauchery of a minor is also illegal and is subject to the same penalties.⁷⁰² Penalties specified for these crimes apply regardless of the country in which the offenses are committed.⁷⁰³

The Ministry of Labor and Social Security and that of Social Action and National Solidarity are responsible for enforcing child labor laws; but, according to the U.S. Department of State, they lack the means to do so adequately.⁷⁰⁴ A Presidential Decree promulgated on August 4, 2006 created a department in charge of child labor and its worst forms within the General Directorate in charge of occupational health and safety of the Ministry of Labor and Social Security.⁷⁰⁵

Violations of minimum age and forced labor laws are subject to imprisonment of up to 10 years, and violations of laws prohibiting the worst forms of child labor are governed by the penalties set forth by the child trafficking legislation.⁷⁰⁶ The national police, gendarmes, customs service, and labor inspectors share responsibility for investigating child labor violations.⁷⁰⁷ Because of resource constraints, the government provides minimal support to Burkinabe trafficking victims; it helps repatriate foreign nationals as well as Burkinabe children.⁷⁰⁸

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Government of Burkina Faso participates in a USD 9.5 million regional USDOL-funded ILO-IPEC project to combat the trafficking of children for exploitive labor in West and Central Africa. The project targets 9,000 children for withdrawal and prevention from trafficking in 6 countries, including Burkina Faso.⁷⁰⁹ The government also takes part in a USD 3 million

⁶⁹⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Burkina Faso," Section 5.

⁷⁰⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Burkina Faso."

⁷⁰¹ Government of Burkina Faso, *Penal Code, Section IV-Offenses against Public Morals*, (April 13, 1946), Articles 334 and 334-1; available from <http://209.190.246.239/protectionproject/statutesPDF/BURKINAFASO.pdf>. U.S. Embassy- Ouagadougou official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, July 31, 2007.

⁷⁰² Government of Burkina Faso, *Government of Burkina Faso Penal Code*.

⁷⁰³ *Ibid.*, Articles 334 and 334-1.

⁷⁰⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Burkina Faso.", Government of Burkina Faso, *Code du travail*, Articles 388 and 390.

⁷⁰⁵ Save the Children-Canada, *Training and Education Against Trafficking (TREAT)*, technical progress report, Toronto, September 25, 2006.

⁷⁰⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Burkina Faso.", Government of Burkina Faso, *Code du travail*, Articles 388 and 390.

⁷⁰⁷ U.S. Embassy- Ouagadougou, *reporting*, December 18, 2006.

⁷⁰⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Burkina Faso."

⁷⁰⁹ ILO-IPEC, *Combating the Trafficking of Children for Labour Exploitation in West and Central Africa (LUTRENA)*, technical progress report, Washington, DC, September 1, 2006.

USDOL-funded child labor education project that targets 2,400 victims of child trafficking and children at risk of being trafficked for withdrawal and prevention through the promotion of education.⁷¹⁰ Additionally, the government participates in a USD 3 million regional USDOL-funded ILO-IPEC project to combat child labor in small-scale gold mining. The project targets 1,500 children to be withdrawn and 2,500 children to be prevented from exploitive work in gold mining in Burkina Faso and Niger.⁷¹¹

In July 2006, Burkina Faso was 1 of 24 countries to adopt the Multilateral Cooperation Agreement to Combat Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children, in West and Central Africa and the Joint Plan of Action against Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children in the West and Central African Regions.⁷¹² As part of the Multilateral Cooperative Agreement, the governments agreed to put into place the child trafficking monitoring system developed by the U.S. Department of Labor-funded, ILO-IPEC LUTRENA project; to ensure that birth certificates and travel identity documents cannot easily be falsified or altered; to provide assistance to each other in the investigation, arrest and prosecution of trafficking offenders; to protect, rehabilitate, and reintegrate trafficking victims; and to improve educational systems, vocational training and apprenticeships.⁷¹³

The government worked with ILO-IPEC and other international donors to address child trafficking by training customs officers, and educating parents and children about the dangers of trafficking.⁷¹⁴ With funding from UNICEF, the government produced a TV and radio series on child labor and child trafficking.⁷¹⁵ There is one reintegration center in the capital for at-risk children, and the government operates 19 transit centers throughout the country for trafficked children. The government also cooperates with NGOs and international organizations to reintegrate child trafficking victims. Additionally, the government has provided micro-credit loans to some families of child trafficking victims as an income-generating alternative to trafficking their children for labor.⁷¹⁶ The government supports Vigilance and Surveillance Committees throughout the country and has trained them on how to identify and assist trafficking victims. Burkina Faso was signatory to a nine-member multilateral cooperative agreement to combat child trafficking in West Africa.⁷¹⁷

⁷¹⁰ Save the Children-Canada, *TREAT, technical progress report*.

⁷¹¹ ILO-IPEC, *Prevention and Elimination of Child Labour in Artisanal Gold Mining in West Africa*, technical progress report, Geneva, September 14, 2006.

⁷¹² ECOWAS and ECASS, *Multilateral Cooperation Agreement to Combat Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, in West and Central Africa*, Abuja, July 7, 2006, ILO-IPEC, LUTRENA, technical progress report.

⁷¹³ ILO-IPEC, *LUTRENA, technical progress report*.

⁷¹⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Burkina Faso," Section 5. See also U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Burkina Faso."

⁷¹⁵ U.S. Embassy- Ouagadougou, *reporting, September 30, 2005*.

⁷¹⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Burkina Faso."

⁷¹⁷ ECOWAS and ECASS, *Multilateral Cooperation Agreement to Combat Trafficking in Persons in West and Central Africa*.

Burundi

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2000, approximately 32.3 percent of boys and 30.1 percent of girls ages 5 to 14 were working in Burundi.⁷²⁹ Children in Burundi work in subsistence agriculture, family-based businesses, mining and brick-making industries, and the informal sector.⁷³⁰ In 2004, the Ministry for National Solidarity, Human Rights, and Gender estimated that there were

approximately 5,000 street children in Burundi.⁷³¹ Such children are involved in activities such as portering and hawking goods.⁷³²

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 2000:	31.2% ⁷¹⁸
Minimum age of work:	16 ⁷¹⁹
Age to which education is compulsory:	12 ⁷²⁰
Free public education:	Yes ^{721*}
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:	80% ⁷²²
Net primary enrollment rate in 2004:	57% ⁷²³
Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 2000:	41.9% ⁷²⁴
As of 2003, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	63% ⁷²⁵
Ratified Convention 138:	7/19/2000 ⁷²⁶
Ratified Convention 182:	6/11/2002 ⁷²⁷
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Yes, associated ⁷²⁸
*Must pay for school supplies and related items.	

⁷¹⁸ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank Surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, October 7, 2005.

⁷¹⁹ Government of Burundi, *Décret loi no. 1/037 du 7 juillet 1993 portant révision du Code du travail*, Article 126; available from <http://natlex.ilo.org/txt/F93BDI01.htm>.

⁷²⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Burundi," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78722.htm>.

⁷²¹ *Ibid.*

⁷²² UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

⁷²³ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Rate. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

⁷²⁴ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank Surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

⁷²⁵ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Survival Rate to Grade 5. Total*, accessed December 18, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

⁷²⁶ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, accessed June 16, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/newratframeE.htm>.

⁷²⁷ *Ibid.*

⁷²⁸ ILO-IPEC, *IPEC Action Against Child Labour: Highlights 2006*, Geneva, October 2006, 29; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ippec/prod/eng/20070228_Implementationreport_en_Web.pdf.

⁷²⁹ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank Surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

⁷³⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Burundi," Section 6d.

⁷³¹ U.S. Department of State, "Burundi," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2004*, Washington, DC, February 28, 2005, Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2004/41591.htm>. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Burundi," Section 5.

Until September 2006, when it signed a cease-fire agreement with the government, the rebel group, Party for the Liberation of the Hutu People/National Liberation Front (PALIPEHUTU-FNL), continued to recruit children and use them as combatants.⁷³³ UNICEF reported that government armed forces did not use children as combatants, but there were reports that the military used children as guides and informers.⁷³⁴ Reports also indicate that the government has illegally detained former child soldiers who served in rebel groups rather than provide them with services such as demobilization and reintegration.⁷³⁵ Since the signing of the cease-fire agreement, there have been conflicting reports regarding whether the PALIPEHUTU-FNL's practice of child recruitment has continued.⁷³⁶

Until the September cease-fire agreement, children in Burundi were trafficked for the purposes of child soldiering; the government and a prominent NGO report that such trafficking no longer occurs in the country.⁷³⁷ Children in Burundi may be trafficked within the country and to neighboring countries for forced labor.⁷³⁸

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The minimum age for employment in Burundi is 16 years.⁷³⁹ Children 12 to 16 are permitted to engage in light work or apprenticeships that do not jeopardize their health, development, or ability to attend and benefit from school.⁷⁴⁰ Children under 16 years may work a maximum of

⁷³² Integrated Regional Information Networks, "Burundi: Focus on Street Children", IRINnews.org, [online], 2004 [cited February 7, 2007]; available from <http://www.irinnews.org/print.asp?ReportID=41667>.

⁷³³ UN Secretary-General, *Report of the Secretary-General on Children and Armed Conflict in Burundi*, October 27, 2006, para 25-28; available from <http://daccessdds.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N06/582/51/PDF/N0658251.pdf?OpenElement>. See also ILO-IPEC, *Prevention and Reintegration of Children Involved in Armed Conflict: An Inter-Regional Programme*, technical progress report, Geneva, September 2006, 2. See also U.S. Department of State, "Burundi (Tier 2)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/65988.htm>. See also UN Secretary-General, *Children and Armed Conflict: Report of the Secretary-General*, October 26, 2006, para 18; available from <http://www.crin.org/docs/CAC.pdf>.

⁷³⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Burundi," Section 1g. See also UN Secretary-General, *Report of the Secretary-General*, para 21.

⁷³⁵ UN Secretary-General, *Report of the Secretary-General*, para 20, 22-23. See also Human Rights Watch, *Burundi: Former Child Soldiers Languish in Custody*, New York, June 16, 2006; available from http://hrw.org/english/docs/2006/06/15/burund13554_txt.htm.

⁷³⁶ U.S. Embassy- Bujumbura official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, January 30, 2007. See also ILO-IPEC, *Prevention and Reintegration of Children Involved in Armed Conflict: An Inter-Regional Programme*, technical progress report, Geneva, March 2007, 3.

⁷³⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Burundi," Section 5. See also U.S. Embassy- Bujumbura, *reporting*, March 2, 2007.

⁷³⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Burundi." See also ECPAT International CSEC Database, *Burundi*, accessed October 4, 2006; available from <http://www.ecpat.net>. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Burundi," Section 5.

⁷³⁹ *Décret loi no. 1/037 du 7 juillet 1993 portant révision du Code du travail*, Article 126.

⁷⁴⁰ ILO Committee of Experts, *Individual Direct Request, Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138) Burundi (ratification: 2000)*, [online] 2006 [cited October 3, 2006]; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/cgi-lex/pdconv.pl?host=status01&textbase=iloeng&document=18479&chapter=9&query=%28C138%2CC182%29+%40ref+%2B+%28Burundi%29+%40ref&highlight=&querytype=bool&context=0>. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Burundi," Section 6d.

6 hours per day, are prohibited from working at night, and must have rest periods of at least 12 hours between work sessions.⁷⁴¹ The law allows for medical examinations to determine if a child's work causes undue physical stress.⁷⁴² Employers found in violation of the provisions for the work of young persons are subject to fines and, for repeat offenses, closure of the place of employment.⁷⁴³

The law prohibits forced labor, except in special circumstances such as military service, civic obligations in the public interest, or as a result of a judicial decision.⁷⁴⁴ Inciting, exploiting, or facilitating the prostitution of persons under 21 is subject to fines and imprisonment of up to 10 years. Offenses against the decency of a child are punishable by prison terms of 5 to 15 years.⁷⁴⁵ The law does not specifically prohibit trafficking; however, traffickers can be prosecuted under laws against assault, fraud, kidnapping, rape, prostitution, and slavery, and can face up to 20 years in prison.⁷⁴⁶ The minimum age of compulsory recruitment to armed forces is 16.⁷⁴⁷ The Ministry of Defense has issued instructions that soldiers found to be forcing children to perform menial work be disciplined, with punishments ranging from a reduction in pay to confinement.⁷⁴⁸

The Ministry of Labor is responsible for enforcing child labor laws. According to the U.S. Department of State, it only enforces such laws when complaints are filed because, at least in part, of a lack of labor inspectors.⁷⁴⁹ The Ministry for National Solidarity, Human Rights, and Gender is responsible for combating trafficking. During 2006, there were arrests of alleged traffickers, but no prosecutions.⁷⁵⁰

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

During the year, the Government of Burundi and former rebel groups collaborated on a USD 3.5 million project implemented by UNICEF under the World Bank's Multi-Country Demobilization and Reintegration Program to demobilize, reintegrate, and prevent re-recruitment of child soldiers. As of June 2006, when the project closed, more than 3,000 children had been demobilized and provided with services, which included medical and psychosocial services, educational and vocational training opportunities, loans, and other

⁷⁴¹ ILO Committee of Experts, *Individual Direct Request*. See also *Décret loi no. 1/037 du 7 juillet 1993 portant révision du Code du travail*, Articles 119-120.

⁷⁴² *Décret loi no. 1/037 du 7 juillet 1993 portant révision du Code du travail*, Article 128.

⁷⁴³ ILO Committee of Experts, *Individual Direct Request*.

⁷⁴⁴ *Décret loi no. 1/037 du 7 juillet 1993 portant révision du Code du travail*, Article 2.

⁷⁴⁵ Government of Burundi, *Offenses Against Public Morals*, Articles 372 and 382; available from <http://209.190.246.239/protectionproject/statutesPDF/BurundiF.pdf>. See also ECPAT International CSEC Database, *Burundi*.

⁷⁴⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Burundi," Section 5.

⁷⁴⁷ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Burundi," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, London, 2004; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=761.

⁷⁴⁸ U.S. Embassy- Bujumbura, *reporting*, March 2, 2007.

⁷⁴⁹ U.S. Embassy- Bujumbura, *reporting*, August 18, 2003. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Burundi," Section 6d.

⁷⁵⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Burundi," Section 5. See also U.S. Embassy- Bujumbura, *reporting*, March 2, 2007.

forms of support. Since June, the government and UNICEF have continued to provide support for children receiving education and vocational training.⁷⁵¹ The government also participated in a global USD 7 million USDOL-funded project implemented by ILO-IPEC to prevent the involvement of children in armed conflict and support the rehabilitation of former child soldiers. The project targeted a total of 5,264 children for withdrawal and 4,250 children for prevention from involvement with armed groups in seven countries, including Burundi.⁷⁵² Language on the demobilization of child soldiers was included in the cease-fire agreement signed by the PALIPEHUTU-FNL, and with the support of UNICEF and other partners, the government has provided services to 26 children from the rebel group.⁷⁵³

The government has carried out public awareness campaigns against the use of child soldiers.⁷⁵⁴ Burundi is also participating in the implementation of a monitoring system on the use of children in armed conflict under UN Security Council Resolution 1612.⁷⁵⁵

In July 2006, 24 of the 26 governments represented in the ECOWAS and the ECASS participated in a Joint Ministerial Conference on Trafficking in Persons held in Nigeria to develop a common understanding of trafficking in West and Central Africa and to adopt a common set of strategies against trafficking in persons, especially women and children. During the Ministerial Conference, Burundi was 1 of 24 countries to adopt the Multilateral Cooperative Agreement to Combat Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, in West and Central Africa and the Joint Plan of Action against Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children in the West and Central African Regions.⁷⁵⁶ As part of the Multilateral Cooperative Agreement, the governments agreed to put into place the child trafficking monitoring system developed by the USDOL-funded ILO-IPEC West and Central Africa LUTRENA trafficking project; ensure that birth certificates and travel identity documents cannot easily be falsified or altered; provide assistance to each other in the investigation, arrest and prosecution of trafficking offenders; protect, rehabilitate, and reintegrate trafficking victims; and improve educational systems, vocational training and apprenticeships.⁷⁵⁷

⁷⁵¹ World Bank, *Burundi*, [online] October 2006 [cited October 4, 2006]; available from <http://www.mdrp.org/burundi.htm>.

⁷⁵² See ILO-IPEC, *Prevention and Reintegration of Children Involved in Armed Conflict: An Inter-Regional Program*, project document, Geneva, September 17, 2003.

⁷⁵³ UN Secretary-General, *Report of the Secretary-General*, 8. See also Olalekan Ajia, *UN Special Representative Commends Demobilization of Child Soldiers in Burundi*, [online] March 27, 2007 [cited April 1, 2007]; available from http://www.unicef.org/protection/burundi_39232.html?q=printme.

⁷⁵⁴ U.S. Embassy- Bujumbura, *reporting, March 2, 2007*.

⁷⁵⁵ Brenda Kariuki, *UNICEF Deputy Executive Director Sees Burundi's Progress in Education and Demobilization of Child Soldiers*, Bujumbura, February 7, 2006; available from http://www.unicef.org/infobycountry/burundi_30956.html.

⁷⁵⁶ ECOWAS and ECASS, *Multilateral Cooperation Agreement to Combat Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, in West and Central Africa*, Abuja, July 7, 2006. See also Catholic Relief Services official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, October 2, 2006.

⁷⁵⁷ ECOWAS and ECASS, *Multilateral Cooperation Agreement to Combat Trafficking in Persons in West and Central Africa*. See also ILO-IPEC, *Combating the Trafficking of Children for Labour Exploitation in West and Central Africa (LUTRENA)*, technical progress report, Geneva, September 1, 2006. See also Goujon, Emmanuel, "African States Sign up to Fight Human Trafficking," *Agence France-Presse*, July 7, 2006.

Cambodia

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2001, approximately 45 percent of boys and 44.6 percent of girls ages 5 to 14 were working in Cambodia. The majority of working children were found in the agricultural sector (76.5 percent), followed by services (17.7 percent), manufacturing (4.9 percent) and other sectors (0.9 percent).⁷⁶⁹

Children work in hazardous conditions on commercial rubber

plantations, in salt production, in fish processing, in portering, in brick making,⁷⁷⁰ and as rubbish pickers, on tobacco plantations, and in making handicrafts. Children also work

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 2001:	44.8% ⁷⁵⁸
Minimum age for admission to work:	14/15 ^{759*}
Age to which education is compulsory:	Not compulsory ⁷⁶⁰
Free public education:	Yes ⁷⁶¹
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:	137% ⁷⁶²
Net primary enrollment rate in 2004:	98% ⁷⁶³
Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 2001:	69.5% ⁷⁶⁴
As of 2003 primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	60% ⁷⁶⁵
Ratified Convention 138:	8/23/1999 ⁷⁶⁶
Ratified Convention 182:	3/14/2006 ⁷⁶⁷
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Yes ⁷⁶⁸
*Laws are inconsistent	

⁷⁵⁸ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, March 1, 2007.

⁷⁵⁹ Government of Cambodia, *Cambodian Labor Law*, (March 13, 1997), Article 177 (1); available from http://www.bigpond.com.kh/Council_of_Jurists/Travail/trv001g.htm. See also U.S. Embassy- Phnom Penh, *reporting*, August 30, 2005.

⁷⁶⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Cambodia," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78769>.

⁷⁶¹ *Ibid.* See also U.S. Embassy- Phnom Penh, *reporting*, December 28, 2006.

⁷⁶² UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

⁷⁶³ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Rate. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

⁷⁶⁴ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Attendance Statistics*, December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

⁷⁶⁵ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Survival Rate to Grade 5. Total*, accessed December 18, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

⁷⁶⁶ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, accessed June 16, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/newratframeE.htm>.

⁷⁶⁷ *Ibid.*

⁷⁶⁸ ILO, *IPEC Action Against Child Labour- Highlights 2006*, Geneva, October 2006; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ippec/prod/eng/20061018_Implementationreport_eng.pdf.

⁷⁶⁹ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

⁷⁷⁰ ILO-IPEC, *Support to the Cambodian National Plan of Action on the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour: A Timebound Approach*, project document, Geneva, September 2004, v. See also ILO-IPEC, *Combating Child Labor in Hazardous Work in Salt Production, Rubber Plantations, and Fish/Shrimp Processing Centers in Cambodia*, project document, Geneva 2001.

processing sea products; breaking, quarrying or collecting stones; in gem and coal mining; and in restaurants.⁷⁷¹ Children, primarily girls, also work as domestic servants. Most of these child domestics are girls 14 to 17 years old, though it is not uncommon to find them as young as 8 or 9. They typically work 12 to 16 hours a day, 7 days a week.⁷⁷²

Cambodia is reported to be a country of origin, transit, and destination for trafficking in children for the purposes of commercial sexual exploitation and forced labor,⁷⁷³ including begging. Cambodian children are trafficked to Thailand and Vietnam; and Vietnamese children are trafficked to Cambodia for commercial sexual exploitation or forced labor in begging, soliciting, street vending, and flower selling.⁷⁷⁴

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The Labor Law sets the minimum age for employment at 15 years,⁷⁷⁵ although a later 1999 ministerial decree sets the minimum age at 14 years.⁷⁷⁶ The law allows children 12 to 15 years to perform light work that is not hazardous and does not affect regular school attendance or participation in other training programs.⁷⁷⁷ Cambodian law prohibits work that is hazardous to the mental and physical development of children under 18, including in agriculture and domestic work.⁷⁷⁸ Employers who hire children less than 18 years are liable to a fine of 31 to 60 days of the daily wage.⁷⁷⁹ The law also prohibits hiring people to work to pay debts.⁷⁸⁰ The law lists 38 types of hazardous work, such as tanning, logging, using chemicals in textile production, etc., in which children under 18 are not permitted to work. The law separately identifies domestic work as hazardous, states that children under 12 shall not carry out domestic work, and sets guidelines for children 12 to 14 undertaking domestic work. Night work is generally prohibited for children.⁷⁸¹ The law also states that no one under 18 shall work in underground mines or quarries, or work from 10 p.m. to 5 a.m. Lists of working children must be kept by employers and must be submitted to labor inspectors, and children who have parents or guardians must have their consent in order to work.⁷⁸²

⁷⁷¹ ILO, UNICEF, and World Bank, *Children's Work in Cambodia: A Challenge for Growth and Poverty Reduction*, 2006, 22; available from http://www.ucw-project.org/pdf/publications/cambodia_rpt.pdf. See also Antonio Graceffo, *The Children of the Garbage Fields of Phnom Penh*, [online] [cited March 20, 2006]; available from <http://www.talesofasia.com/rs-36-garbage.htm>.

⁷⁷² ILO, *Child Domestic Labour in Cambodia: Why It Has to Stop and How We Can Stop It*, Phnom Penh, , 2004; available from <http://www.ilo.org/public/english/region/asro/bangkok/library/download/pub04-12.pdf>.

⁷⁷³ U.S. Embassy- Phnom Penh official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, July 31, 2007.

⁷⁷⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Cambodia (Tier 2 Watch List)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/65987.htm>. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Cambodia," Section 5.

⁷⁷⁵ Government of Cambodia, *Cambodian Labor Law*, Article 177(1).

⁷⁷⁶ U.S. Embassy- Phnom Penh, *reporting*, August 30, 2005.

⁷⁷⁷ Government of Cambodia, *Cambodian Labor Law*, Article 177(4).

⁷⁷⁸ *Ibid.*, Article 177(2). See also U.S. Embassy- Phnom Penh, *reporting*, November 6, 2003.

⁷⁷⁹ U.S. Embassy- Phnom Penh, *reporting* March 5, 2007.

⁷⁸⁰ Government of Cambodia, *Cambodian Labor Law*, Articles 15-16.

⁷⁸¹ *Ibid.*, Articles 175-176.

⁷⁸² Government of Cambodia, *Prakas on the Prohibition of Hazardous Child Labor*, Prakas No. 106, (April 28, 2004).

The Constitution prohibits prostitution and the trafficking of human beings.⁷⁸³ Penalties for brothel owners, operators, and individuals who prostitute others include prison terms of between 10 to 20 years, depending on the age of the victim.⁷⁸⁴ The law also stipulates 10 to 15 years of imprisonment for traffickers and their accomplices. If the victim is under 15 years old, violators face penalties of 15 to 20 years of imprisonment. Acts of debauchery are outlawed, and although the legal definition of debauchery does not explicitly include pornography, the courts have prosecuted several cases of child pornography under the law.⁷⁸⁵

The law prohibits all forced or compulsory labor.⁷⁸⁶ The minimum age for conscription into military service is 18 years.⁷⁸⁷

The Ministry of Labor and Vocational Training (MOLVT) is responsible for enforcing the child-related provisions of the Cambodian Labor Law.⁷⁸⁸ However, the Labor Law only applies to formal employer-employee relationships and does not cover many areas of informal sector work such as family businesses and farms, begging, scavenging, hauling, day labor, the commercial sex industry, or participation in any illegal activities, where the most serious child labor problems exist.⁷⁸⁹ No employer has ever been prosecuted for violating child labor laws.⁷⁹⁰ Local police are responsible for enforcing laws against child trafficking and prostitution.⁷⁹¹ According to the U.S. Department of State, although the government has increased arrests and prosecutions of traffickers and has increased the number of prevention and protection programs, anti-trafficking efforts continue to be hampered by reported corruption and a weak judicial system.⁷⁹² During 2006, the police arrested 670 offenders including 65 arrests for cross border and domestic trafficking.⁷⁹³ Thirteen foreign nationals were arrested for debauchery between March 2006 and January 2007.⁷⁹⁴

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Ministry of Social Affairs, Veterans, and Youth Rehabilitation (MOSAVY) Action Program 2004-2008 places strong emphasis on child welfare and protection. Specific goals include combating child labor and trafficking, developing national plans, and improving enforcement

⁷⁸³ Government of Cambodia, *Constitution of the Kingdom of Cambodia*, (September 21, 1993), Article 46; available from http://www.oefre.unibe.ch/law/icl/cb00000_.html. See also *Law on the Suppression of the Kidnapping, Trafficking and Exploitation of Human Beings*, Royal Decree No. 0296/01, (1996).

⁷⁸⁴ *Law on the Suppression of Kidnapping*, Article 3.

⁷⁸⁵ U.S. Embassy- Phnom Penh, *reporting*, August 30, 2005.

⁷⁸⁶ Government of Cambodia, *Cambodian Labor Law*, Articles 15-16.

⁷⁸⁷ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Cambodia," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, London, 2004; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=848.

⁷⁸⁸ U.S. Embassy- Phnom Penh, *reporting*, August 23, 2004.

⁷⁸⁹ U.S. Embassy- Phnom Penh, *reporting*, November 6, 2003. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports-2006: Cambodia," Section 6d.

⁷⁹⁰ U.S. Embassy- Phnom Penh, *reporting*, August 30, 2005.

⁷⁹¹ U.S. Embassy- Phnom Penh, *reporting*, August 23, 2004. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports-2006: Cambodia," Section 6d.

⁷⁹² *Ibid.* See also U.S. Embassy- Phnom Penh, *reporting*, March 5, 2007.

⁷⁹³ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Cambodia," section 5.

⁷⁹⁴ U.S. Embassy- Phnom Penh, *reporting*, March 5, 2007.

mechanisms for violators of child labor and trafficking laws.⁷⁹⁵ The Government of Cambodia is undertaking a final assessment of its first 5-year plan against trafficking and sexual exploitation of children in order to finalize and implement its second 5-year plan (2006-2010).⁷⁹⁶

Along with Burma, Laos, the People's Republic of China, Thailand, and Vietnam, Cambodia is signatory to the "Coordinated Mekong Ministerial Initiative against Trafficking (COMMIT)." Two agreements were signed in 2006, pledging USD 1.8 million to the COMMIT process. The contributions will fund COMMIT activities to ensure the legal, social, and community protection of victims of trafficking; strengthen the capacity of persons combating the crime of trafficking; and build a comprehensive response involving all relevant ministries.⁷⁹⁷ During the "Civil Society and Government Collaboration to Combat Human Trafficking in the Greater Mekong Subregion" conference, which took place in May 2006, government and NGO representatives adopted an action plan consisting of 19 recommendations to combat human trafficking.⁷⁹⁸ In November 2006, the Ministry of Women's Affairs established a single National Task Force to implement all agreements and MOUs between the Government of Cambodia and other countries on the elimination of trafficking in persons and assisting victims of trafficking.⁷⁹⁹

There are several governmental agencies that have ongoing programs to address the needs of children vulnerable to exploitation in the worst forms of child labor. The Ministry of Tourism continues to work with the ILO to promote "Child Safe" tourism policies to prevent trafficking of women and children for labor and sexual exploitation.⁸⁰⁰ The Ministry of Interior operates an anti-trafficking hotline.⁸⁰¹ MOSAVY works with UNICEF and IOM to return trafficked children to their homes. The Ministry of Women's Affairs launched an anti-trafficking information campaign in five northeastern provinces in January 2006.⁸⁰²

The Government of Cambodia is participating in a USD 4.75 million USDOL-funded Timebound Program supported by ILO-IPEC to eliminate child labor in specified worst forms

⁷⁹⁵ Veterans and Youth Rehabilitation (MOSAVY) Kingdom of Cambodia's Ministry of Social Affairs, *Action Program 2004-2008*.

⁷⁹⁶ ILO, *Cambodia Reviews Five Years of Counter Trafficking Efforts-Prepares for New Plan of Action*, [online] May 19, 2005 [cited May 19, 2005]; available from <http://www.ilo.org/public/english/region/asro/bangkok/child/trafficking/index.htm>. See also World Education, *OPTIONS: Combating Child Trafficking and Commercial Sexual Exploitation through Education in Cambodia*, technical report, September 30, 2005, 5. See also U.S. Embassy- Phnom Penh, *reporting, March 5, 2007*.

⁷⁹⁷ Human Trafficking.org, *Two Agreements Pledging U.S. 1.8 Million to COMMIT process*, [online] May 29, 2006 [cited June 27, 2006]; available from <http://www.humantrafficking.org/updates/349>.

⁷⁹⁸ Vital Voices Global Partnership, Email communication to USDOL official, June 19, 2006.

⁷⁹⁹ U.S. Embassy- Phnom Penh, *reporting, March 5, 2007*.

⁸⁰⁰ Ministry of Tourism and ILO, *Ministry of Tourism of the Kingdom of Cambodia and ILO Team Up to Advocate Promotion of "Child Safe" Tourism Policies to Prevent Trafficking in Children and Women*, September 22, 2005; available from

<http://www.ilo.org/public/english/region/asro/bangkok/child/trafficking/downloads/camtourismnews.pdf>. See also ILO-IPEC, *Mekong Sub-Regional Project to Combat Trafficking in Children and Women*, [online] [cited April 4, 2007]; available from <http://www.ilo.org/public/english/region/asro/bangkok/child/trafficking/index.htm>.

⁸⁰¹ U.S. Embassy- Phnom Penh, *reporting, August 30, 2005*. See also ILO-IPEC, *Mekong Sub-Regional Project*.

⁸⁰² Human Trafficking.org, *Anti-Trafficking Campaign to Begin in Cambodia*, [online] March 2005 [cited March 14, 2006]; available from

http://www.humantrafficking.org/countries/eap/cambodia/news/2006_01/campaign_begins.html.

and to create a platform for eliminating all forms of child labor. The program targets children involved in brick-making, portering, rubber-making, domestic work, salt production, fish processing, and services. It targets 7,270 children to be withdrawn from work and 8,660 to be prevented from engaging in child labor.⁸⁰³ Cambodia is also part of a USDOL-funded global project that aims to substantially reduce the engagement of children in the worst forms of child labor.⁸⁰⁴ The government is also participating in a 4-year, USDOL-funded USD 3 million project that focuses on providing education opportunities to those children who have been or have the potential to be trafficked.⁸⁰⁵ The project, which was launched in 2003, targets 13,500 children at risk of commercial sexual exploitation and trafficking. The project works in the provinces of Banteay Meanchey, Kampong Cham, and Prey Veng, as well as Phnom Penh.⁸⁰⁶ USDOL also funds a USD 500,000 project to assist in the reintegration of trafficked women and children. The project provides a range of counseling, training and rehabilitation services to girls and women in the Phnom Penh area.⁸⁰⁷

The U.S. Presidential Anti-Trafficking in Persons Initiative allocated USD 5.6 million to support programs to combat trafficking in Cambodia through 2006.⁸⁰⁸ In addition, in August 2006, USAID committed USD 4.5 million over three years to combat trafficking.⁸⁰⁹ Cambodia also participates in a project supported by ASEAN and AusAID on the elimination of trafficking in women and children in four Southeast Asian countries and China's Yunnan Province.⁸¹⁰

Starting in 2006, AusAID is also providing funding for several activities in Cambodia. The "Mobilizing Communities for Child Protection" project and "A Child Safe Cambodia" project will work to protect the rights of children against commercial sexual exploitation and abuse. These projects total almost USD 3 million and will last through 2010.⁸¹¹ In addition, AusAID has committed to provide USD 15.8 million over the next 5 years to combat human trafficking in four countries including Cambodia.⁸¹²

⁸⁰³ ILO-IPEC, *Support to the Cambodian National Plan of Action on the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour: A Time-bound Approach*, project document, Geneva, September 2004.

⁸⁰⁴ Winrock International, *Child Labor Reduction through Community Based Education*, [online] [cited January 31, 2007]; available from <http://www.winrock.org/fact/facts.asp?CC=5519&bu=>.

⁸⁰⁵ World Education, *OPTIONS: Combating Child Trafficking and Commercial Sexual Exploitation through Education in Cambodia*, status report, March 2006.

⁸⁰⁶ U.S. Department of Labor, *Technical Cooperation Project Summary: OPTIONS: Combating Child Trafficking Through Education*, Washington, DC.

⁸⁰⁷ U.S. Department of Labor, *Technical Cooperation Project Summary: Reintegration of Trafficked Women*, Washington, DC.

⁸⁰⁸ U.S. Embassy- Phnom Penh, *reporting, August 23, 2004*.

⁸⁰⁹ HumanTrafficking.org, *U.S. Promises Funding to Counter Human Trafficking in Cambodia*, [online] [cited January 31, 2007]; available from <http://www.humantrafficking.org/updates/442>.

⁸¹⁰ Australian Embassy Bangkok, *AusAID Program in Thailand Overview* [online] May 2005 [cited May 20, 2005]; available from http://www.austembassy.or.th/agency/ausaid/overview_eng.php.

⁸¹¹ Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID), *Aid Activities in Cambodia*, [online] [cited November 3, 2006]; available from http://www.ausaid.gov.au/country/cbrief.cfm?DCon=1061_5593_9716_8236_8498&Coun...

⁸¹² Child Trafficking Research Hub, *Australia to Help Fight Human Trafficking in Asia*, [online] 2006 [cited September 21, 2006]; available from http://www.childtrafficking.org/cgi-bin/ct/main.sql?file+view_news.sql&TITLE=-1&AUTHOR=-1&THES...

Cameroon

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2001, approximately 14.5 percent of boys and 17.4 percent of girls ages 10 to 14 were working in Cameroon. The majority of working children were found in the agricultural sector (88.2 percent), followed by services (7.1 percent), manufacturing (2.1 percent), and other sectors (2.6 percent).⁸²³

Some children work on cocoa farms as well as on banana and rubber plantations.⁸²⁴ Children also work as load bearers, traders, street vendors, car washers, and domestic servants.⁸²⁵ Children are also found working in fisheries, livestock

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 10-14 estimated as working in 2001:	15.9% ⁸¹³
Minimum age for admission to work:	14 ⁸¹⁴
Age to which education is compulsory:	14 ⁸¹⁵
Free public education:	Yes ^{816*}
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:	117% ⁸¹⁷
Net primary enrollment rate:	Unavailable
Percent of children 10-14 attending school in 2001:	84.6% ⁸¹⁸
As of 2002, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	64% ⁸¹⁹
Ratified Convention 138:	8/13/2001 ⁸²⁰
Ratified Convention 182:	6/5/2002 ⁸²¹
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Yes ⁸²²
*Must pay for school supplies and related items.	

⁸¹³ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, March 1, 2007.

⁸¹⁴ Government of Cameroon, *Labour Code*, Law no. 92/007, (August 14, 1992), Article 86(1); available from <http://natlex.ilo.org/txt/E92CMR01.htm>.

⁸¹⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Cameroon," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78723.htm>.

⁸¹⁶ *Ibid.* See also UNICEF, *Girls' Education in Cameroon*, [online] [cited January 21, 2007]; available from www.unicef.org/girlseducation/index.html.

⁸¹⁷ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

⁸¹⁸ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

⁸¹⁹ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Survival Rate to Grade 5. Total*, accessed December 18, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

⁸²⁰ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, accessed March 26, 2004; available from <http://webfusion.ilo.org/public/db/standards/normes/appl/index.cfm?lang=EN>.

⁸²¹ *Ibid.*

⁸²² ILO-IPEC, *IPEC Action Against Child Labour; Highlights 2006*, Geneva, October 2006; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ipcc/prod/eng/20061019_Implementationreport_eng_Web.pdf.

⁸²³ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

⁸²⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Cameroon," Section 6d. See also U.S. Embassy-Yaounde, *reporting*, March 2, 2006.

⁸²⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Cameroon," Sections 6d and 6c. See also Marie Therese Mengue, *Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children in Cameroon*, July 2006; available from http://www.ecpat.net/eng/pdf/Cameroon/Cameroon_CSEC_Report%20_Eng.pdf. See also UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Initial Reports of States Parties Due in 1995*, Geneva, March 26, 2001, para. 275.

raising, and mining.⁸²⁶ According to the Ministry of Social Affairs, children from large rural families are “loaned” for labor in exchange for monetary compensation in urban areas where they serve as domestics and street vendors, and sometimes as prostitutes.⁸²⁷

Cameroon is a source, transit, and destination country for trafficking of children for the purposes of forced labor and commercial sexual exploitation. While most of the trafficking occurs domestically,⁸²⁸ Cameroonian children are trafficked to Nigeria, Gabon, and the Central African Republic. Children are also trafficked to Cameroon from Nigeria, Chad, Gabon, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the Central African Republic, Benin, and Niger. Cameroon also serves as a country of transit for children trafficked between other countries such as Nigeria, Benin, Niger, Chad, Togo, the Republic of the Congo, and the Central African Republic. Girls are trafficked from Anglophone areas in Cameroon to the Francophone cities of Yaoundé and Douala to work as domestic servants, street vendors, prostitutes, as well as in child care; the children’s unfamiliarity with the language makes it easier for employers to assert their control.⁸²⁹ Girls are trafficked into Europe and Equatorial Guinea, for sexual exploitation.⁸³⁰ Trafficked children also work on cocoa, tea, banana, and rubber plantations; in spare-parts shops; and in bars and restaurants.⁸³¹

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum age for employment at 14 years, including for apprenticeships.⁸³² Children are prohibited from working at night,⁸³³ and children under 18 are prohibited from moving heavy weights, performing dangerous and unhealthy tasks, and working in confined areas.⁸³⁴ The law also specifies that children cannot work in any job that exceeds their physical capacity, and the Labor Inspector can require child laborers to take a medical exam to determine if such a situation exists.⁸³⁵ The law also restricts the tasks that children may perform on ships and requires medical certificates in certain cases to verify their capacity for the type of work.⁸³⁶ Violations of child labor provisions are punishable by fines.⁸³⁷

⁸²⁶ UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Reports submitted by states parties under article 44 of the convention*, para. 275.

⁸²⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Cameroon," Section 6c. See also U. S. Embassy- Yaounde, *reporting*, December 13, 2006.

⁸²⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Cameroon (Tier 2)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/65988.htm>.

⁸²⁹ U.S. Embassy- Yaounde, *reporting*, March 2, 2005. See also U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Cameroon." See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Cameroon," Section 5.

⁸³⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Cameroon."

⁸³¹ U. S. Embassy- Yaounde, *reporting*, December 13, 2006. See also U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Cameroon." See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Cameroon," Section 5.

⁸³² Government of Cameroon, *Cameroon Labor Code*, Article 86(1).

⁸³³ *Ibid.*, Article 82(2).

⁸³⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Cameroon," Section 6d.

⁸³⁵ Government of Cameroon, *Cameroon Labor Code*, Article 87(1).

⁸³⁶ *Ibid.*, Article 86(2).

⁸³⁷ *Ibid.*, Article 167.

The law prohibits slavery and servitude, and it guarantees the right to free choice of employment.⁸³⁸ The penalty for a person who subjects a child to debt bondage is 5 to 10 years in prison and a fine.⁸³⁹ Cameroon's anti-trafficking law defines child trafficking as the act of moving or helping to move a child within or outside Cameroon to reap financial or material benefit.⁸⁴⁰ Under the law, individuals who traffic or enslave a child are subject to the punishment of a prison sentence of 10 to 20 years and a fine; if the child is under 15 years or if the offender is the victim's parent, the punishment increases to 15 to 20 years of imprisonment.⁸⁴¹ Cameroonian law also prohibits procuring prostitutes, including sharing the profits from another person's prostitution, and sets the penalty as a fine and imprisonment for 6 months to 5 years, which doubles if the crime involves a person less than 21 years.⁸⁴² Military conscription is not compulsory in Cameroon. The minimum age for voluntary recruitment is 18, although enlistment under 18 is permitted with parental consent.⁸⁴³

The Ministries of Social Affairs, Labor, and Social Insurance enforce child labor laws through site inspections of registered businesses. The country has 58 labor inspectors who are responsible for investigating child labor cases.⁸⁴⁴ However, the U.S. Department of State reports that a lack of resources hindered the efforts to combat child labor.⁸⁴⁵ The Ministries of Labor, Social Insurance, and Social Affairs are also the lead government agencies responsible for anti-trafficking efforts.⁸⁴⁶ In November 2006, police arrested 9 traffickers carrying 16 Nigerian children; Cameroonian authorities planned to repatriate the victims to the proper Nigerian authorities.⁸⁴⁷

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

Between 2002 and 2006, the Government of Cameroon participated in a USD 6 million ILO-IPEC regional project jointly funded by USDOL and the cocoa industry's Global Issues Group to combat exploitive child labor in the cocoa sector.⁸⁴⁸ The project closed in April 2006, and withdrew 8,756 children and prevented an additional 2,844 from exploitive work in the cocoa and other sub-agricultural sectors.⁸⁴⁹ With the support of USDOL, the Government of

⁸³⁸ Government of Cameroon, *Constitution of the Republic of Cameroon*, Law no. 96-06, (January 18, 1996), Article 4. See also Government of Cameroon, *Cameroon Labor Code*, Article 2(3). See also U. S. Embassy- Yaounde, *reporting*, December 13, 2006.

⁸³⁹ Government of Cameroon, *Law relating to the Fight against Child Trafficking and Slavery*, Law No. 2005/015, (December 29, 2005), Article 3.

⁸⁴⁰ *Ibid.*, Article 2(b).

⁸⁴¹ *Ibid.*, Articles 4-5.

⁸⁴² The Protection Project, "Cameroon," in *2005 Human Rights Report on Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children*, Washington, DC, 2005; available from <http://www.protectionproject.org>.

⁸⁴³ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Cameroon," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, London, 2004; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=966.

⁸⁴⁴ U. S. Embassy- Yaounde, *reporting*, December 13, 2006.

⁸⁴⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Cameroon," Section 6d.

⁸⁴⁶ *Ibid.*, Section 5. Also see U.S. Embassy- Yaounde, *E-mail communication to USDOL official*, August 1, 2007.

⁸⁴⁷ U.S. Embassy- Yaounde, *reporting*, March 6, 2007.

⁸⁴⁸ U.S. Department of Labor International Child Labor Program, *West Africa Cocoa/Commerical Agriculture Program to Combat Hazardous and Exploitative Child Labor (WACAP)*, project summary, 2006.

⁸⁴⁹ *Ibid.*

Cameroon is also taking part in a USD 9 million project implemented by ILO-IPEC to combat trafficking in children in West and Central Africa; the project aims at withdrawing and preventing 9,000 children from trafficking.⁸⁵⁰ USAID and the chocolate industry fund the Sustainable Tree Crops Program in Cameroon, a public-private partnership that promotes sustainable tree crop systems, including coffee, cocoa, and cashews, and contains a component to prevent and eliminate the worst forms of child labor on farms.⁸⁵¹

The Government of Cameroon works with local and international NGOs to assist trafficking victims, including placing them in temporary shelters.⁸⁵² UNICEF is using a multifaceted approach in Cameroon to combat the exploitation and trafficking of children: raising public awareness, promoting education as a preventative strategy against child labor, and establishing a legal framework and penalties.⁸⁵³ Both the government-owned and independent media have also engaged in awareness-raising activities, which included coverage of anti-trafficking press conferences, meetings, and events such as information week on the trafficking of African girls for sexual exploitation.⁸⁵⁴ The U.S. Department of State funded a USD 500,000 project in Cameroon to combat trafficking in children for exploitive labor until December 2006.⁸⁵⁵ The Government of Cameroon, along with ILO-IPEC, continued other awareness-raising activities to eliminate child trafficking in airports by distributing anti-trafficking embarkation and disembarkation cards.⁸⁵⁶

⁸⁵⁰ ILO-IPEC, *Combating the Trafficking in Children for Labour Exploitation in West and Central Africa (LUTRENA) - Amendment*, project document amendment, Geneva, September 3, 2004, 6. See also U.S. Department of Labor International Child Labor Program, *Combating Trafficking in Children for Labor Exploitation in West and Central Africa, Phases 1 & 2 (LUTRENA)*, project summary, 2006.

⁸⁵¹ USAID, "Chocolate Companies Help West African Farmers Improve Harvest," (September, 2005); available from http://www.usaid.gov/press/frontlines/fl_sep05/pillars.htm. See also International Institute of Tropical Agriculture, *Sustainable Tree Crops Program*, [online] [cited October 19, 2006]; available from <http://www.treecrops.org/index.htm>.

⁸⁵² U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Cameroon," Section 5.

⁸⁵³ UNICEF, *At a Glance: Cameroon*, [online] [cited June 6, 2006]; available from <http://www.unicef.org/infobycountry/cameroon.html?q=printme>.

⁸⁵⁴ U.S. Embassy - Yaounde, *reporting*, March 6, 2007.

⁸⁵⁵ ILO-IPEC Geneva official, IPEC projects from all non-USDOL donors E-mail communication USDOL official, March 1, 2007.

⁸⁵⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Cameroon," Section 5.

Cape Verde

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Children in Cape Verde work as street vendors and car washers in urban areas including Mindelo, Praia, and Sal.⁸⁶⁶

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working:	Unavailable
Minimum age of work:	16 ⁸⁵⁷
Age to which education is compulsory:	11 ⁸⁵⁸
Free public education:	Yes ⁸⁵⁹
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:	111% ⁸⁶⁰
Net primary enrollment rate in 2004:	92% ⁸⁶¹
Percent of children 5-14 attending school:	Unavailable
As of 2003, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	91% ⁸⁶²
Ratified Convention 138:	No ⁸⁶³
Ratified Convention 182:	10/23/2001 ⁸⁶⁴
ILO-IPEC participating country:	No ⁸⁶⁵

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law states that the minimum age for employment is 16 years, and the minimum age for apprentice contracts is 14 years.⁸⁶⁷ Employment contracts entered into by children under 18

⁸⁵⁷ U.S. Embassy-Praia, *reporting*, August 26, 2005.

⁸⁵⁸ UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Summary Record of the 746th Meeting: Cape Verde*. 07/11/2001, CRC/C/SR.746, Geneva, November 7, 2001; available from <http://www.unhcr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/0/5f332d555df17111c1256b10003a14de?Opendocument>.

⁸⁵⁹ U.S. Department of State. "Cape Verde." In, *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006: Cape Verde*, Washington, DC 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78724.htm>.

⁸⁶⁰ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

⁸⁶¹ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Rate. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

⁸⁶² UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Survival Rate to Grade 5. Total*, accessed December 18, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

⁸⁶³ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, accessed January 18, 2007; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/newratframeE.htm>.

⁸⁶⁴ ILO, *ILOLEX Database of International Labour Standards*, accessed October 30, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/newratframeE.htm>.

⁸⁶⁵ ILO, *IPEC Action Against Child Labor- Highlights 2006*, ILO, November 14, 2006; available from http://www.ilo.org/public/english/standards/ipec/about/countries/countries_en.pdf.

⁸⁶⁶ UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Concluding Observations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child: Cape Verde*, CRC/C/15/Add.167, October 12, 2001; available from <http://www.hri.ca/fortherecord2001/documentation/tbodies/crc-c-11-add23.htm>.

⁸⁶⁷ U.S. Embassy- Praia, *reporting*, August 26, 2005.

can be invalidated at the request of the parents or legal representatives.⁸⁶⁸ In general, the normal working hours for those under age 18 may not exceed 38 hours a week and 7 hours a day.⁸⁶⁹ The law prohibits children under age 16 from working at night or in enterprises that produce toxic products.⁸⁷⁰ Those over age 16 are allowed to work at night only when it is essential to their vocational training.⁸⁷¹ The legal remedies for violating child labor laws include civil compensation for the victims, as well as criminal penalties of up to 10 and a half years of imprisonment and seizure of the violator's assets.⁸⁷²

The law prohibits compulsory labor, including by children.⁸⁷³ The compulsory recruitment age for military service is 18 years, but 17-year-olds may volunteer with parental consent.⁸⁷⁴ Although prostitution is legal, the law prohibits the facilitation and procurement of children under 16 for the purpose of prostitution.⁸⁷⁵ Criminal penalties range from 9 to 19 years of imprisonment if the victim is under 14, and from 2 to 8 years if the victim is 14 to 16 years.⁸⁷⁶ These penalties are increased in cases where the perpetrator exploits a victim's economic hardship, uses violence, or abuses a position of authority. Enhanced penalties are also imposed in cases of procurement that involve pregnancy, the transmission of disease, and suicide or death.⁸⁷⁷ The trafficking of those under 18 is illegal; sentences for trafficking in children have ranged from 2 to 16 years of imprisonment.⁸⁷⁸

The Director-General for Labor and Inspector General for Labor implement and enforce labor laws, including child labor laws and regulations.⁸⁷⁹ The Ministries of Justice and Labor were responsible for enforcing child labor laws; however, such laws were seldom enforced.⁸⁸⁰

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

Research has not identified any policies or programs by the Government of Djibouti to address exploitive child labor.

⁸⁶⁸ UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Consideration of Reports Submitted by States Parties Under Article 44 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, Periodic Reports of States Parties Due in 1994: Cape Verde*, CRC/C/11/Add.23, United Nations, Geneva, January 2001.

⁸⁶⁹ *Ibid.*

⁸⁷⁰ *Ibid.* See also U.S. Department of State. "Cape Verde." In, *Country Reports- 2006: Cape Verde*.

⁸⁷¹ UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Consideration of Reports: Cape Verde*.

⁸⁷² U.S. Embassy-Praia, *reporting, August 26, 2005*.

⁸⁷³ U.S. Department of State. "Cape Verde." In, *Country Reports- 2006: Cape Verde*.

⁸⁷⁴ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Child Soldiers Global Report 2004," November 17, 2004; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=763.

⁸⁷⁵ The Protection Project, "Cape Verde," in *2005 Human Rights Report on Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children: A Country-by-Country Report on a Contemporary Form of Slavery*, Washington, DC, 2006; available from <http://www.protectionproject.org/pub.htm>.

⁸⁷⁶ *Ibid.* See also UNICEF, *At a Glance: Cape Verde*, [2006 [cited June 16, 2006]; available from <http://www.unicef.org/infobycountry/capeverde.html?q=printme>.

⁸⁷⁷ The Protection Project, "Cape Verde."

⁸⁷⁸ U.S. Department of State. "Cape Verde." In, *Country Reports- 2006: Cape Verde*.

⁸⁷⁹ U.S. Embassy-Praia, *reporting, August 26, 2005*.

⁸⁸⁰ U.S. Department of State. "Cape Verde." In, *Country Reports- 2006: Cape Verde*.

Central African Republic

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2000, in the Central African Republic, approximately 60.4 percent of all boys 5 to 14 were working compared to 61.7 percent of girls in the same age range.⁸⁹⁰ Children work in agriculture, domestic service, fishing, and mining. They also reportedly work alongside adult relatives in diamond fields.⁸⁹¹ Some children work on farms at school.⁸⁹²

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 2000:	61.1% ⁸⁸¹
Minimum age for admission to work:	14 ⁸⁸²
Age to which education is compulsory:	14 ⁸⁸³
Free public education:	No ⁸⁸⁴
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:	56% ⁸⁸⁵
Net primary enrollment rate:	Unavailable
Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 2000:	38.5% ⁸⁸⁶
Percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	Unavailable
Ratified Convention 138:	6/28/2000 ⁸⁸⁷
Ratified Convention 182:	6/28/2000 ⁸⁸⁸
ILO-IPEC participating country:	No ⁸⁸⁹

The Ministry of Family and Social Affairs of the Central African Republic estimated that at least 3,000 street children live in the capital city of Bangui.⁸⁹³ These children, many orphaned

⁸⁸¹ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, March 1, 2007, 19.

⁸⁸² *Loi N° 61/221, Instituant le Code du Travail de la République Centrafricaine*, (June 2, 1961), Article 125.

⁸⁸³ U.S. Department of State, "Central African Republic," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78725.htm>.

⁸⁸⁴ U.S. Embassy- Bangui, *reporting*, November 29, 2006. See also UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Initial Reports of States Parties Due in 1994 : Central African Republic*, November 18, 1998, Article 29; available from [http://www.unhcr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/\(Symbol\)/fb066e7732d518c0802567a6003b7aad?Opendocument](http://www.unhcr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/(Symbol)/fb066e7732d518c0802567a6003b7aad?Opendocument). See also Right to Education, *Table 2: The Law and Practice in Sub-Saharan Africa*, [online] [cited April 2, 2007]; available from http://www.right-to-education.org/content/tables/table_02.html. See also UNESCO, *Education for All: The Quality Imperative*, [online], 2005, 282; available from <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0013/001373/137333e.pdf>.

⁸⁸⁵ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratios. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

⁸⁸⁶ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

⁸⁸⁷ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, October 23, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/docs/declAF.htm>.

⁸⁸⁸ *Ibid.*

⁸⁸⁹ ILO-IPEC, *IPEC Action Against Child Labour-Highlights 2006*, Geneva, October 2006; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ippec/prod/eng/20061019_Implementationreport_eng_Web.pdf.

⁸⁹⁰ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

⁸⁹¹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Central African Republic," Section 6d.

⁸⁹² *Ibid.*

by HIV/AIDS, are engaged in various economic activities including hauling, street vending, washing dishes in small eateries, and begging.⁸⁹⁴ Some girls are also involved in commercial sexual exploitation.⁸⁹⁵ Children from some indigenous groups are forced into agricultural, domestic, and other forms of labor by other ethnic groups in the country.⁸⁹⁶ In addition, anecdotal evidence suggests that a number of boys have joined rebel forces fighting the government in the northwest region of the country.⁸⁹⁷

The Central African Republic is both a source and a destination for children trafficked for forced labor and commercial sexual exploitation. Children are reportedly trafficked to and from Cameroon and Nigeria. In addition to commercial sexual exploitation, trafficked children work in domestic services and as forced labor in shops and commercial activities.⁸⁹⁸ Also, anecdotal evidence suggests that children may be trafficked to other nearby countries to work in agriculture.⁸⁹⁹ In addition, traveling merchants, herders, and other foreigners working in and transiting through the country sometimes brought boys and girls with them. Such children did not attend school and were not paid for their work.⁹⁰⁰

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum age for employment at 14 years.⁹⁰¹ However, children who are at least 12 years old may engage in light work, such as traditional agriculture or home services.⁹⁰² Children under 18 years old are forbidden to perform certain kinds of work, including work in

⁸⁹³ Government of the Central African Republic, *Analyse causale des problèmes de protection des enfants de la rue en Centrafrique*, Ministry of Family and Social Affairs, Bangui, April 2004, 4. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Central African Republic," Section 5.

⁸⁹⁴ Government of the Central African Republic, *Analyse causale des problèmes de protection des enfants de la rue en Centrafrique*, 19. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Central African Republic," Section 5.

⁸⁹⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Central African Republic," Section 5. See also Integrated Regional Information Networks, "Central African Republic: Teaching street children about HIV", IRINnews.org, [online], December 28, 2006 [cited April 4, 2007]; available from <http://www.irinnews.org/Report.aspx?ReportId=64377>.

⁸⁹⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Central African Republic," Section 5.

⁸⁹⁷ Integrated Regional Information Networks, "CAR: Conflict forces children into insurgency", IRINnews.org, [online], February 23, 2007 [cited March 26, 2007]; available from <http://www.irinnews.org/Report.aspx?ReportId=70329>. See also CARE, *Inter-Agency Mission Report on the Central African Republic*, [online], February 17, 2007; available from <http://www.reliefweb.int/rw/RWB.NSF/db900SID/JBRD-6ZGCV9?OpenDocument>. See also UNICEF, *Thousands Displaced in the Central African Republic Struggle to Survive*, [online] February 20, 2007 [cited March 4, 2007]; available from http://www.unicef.org/infobycountry/car_38398.html?q=printme.

⁸⁹⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Central African Republic," Section 5. See also U.S. Department of State, "Central African Republic," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/>.

⁸⁹⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Central African Republic," Section 5.

⁹⁰⁰ *Ibid.*

⁹⁰¹ *Loi N° 61/221, Instituant le Code du Travail de la République Centrafricaine*. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Central African Republic," Section 6d.

⁹⁰² ILO NATLEX National Labor Law Database, *Central African Republic: Elimination of Child Labour, Protection of Children and Young Persons*, accessed June 20, 2006; available from http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/natlex_browse.details. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Central African Republic," Section 6d.

mines, work that involves carrying heavy loads, or work between 10 p.m. and 5 a.m.⁹⁰³ The law prohibits a company or parent from using children in mining. Violators are subject to imprisonment of 6 months to 3 years.⁹⁰⁴ Forced labor is prohibited under the law. Although they are not specifically mentioned, the prohibition against forced and compulsory labor applies to children.⁹⁰⁵ The minimum age for enlisting in the armed forces is 18 years.⁹⁰⁶

The law prohibits the procurement of individuals for sexual purposes, including assisting in or profiting from prostitution, with penalties that include imprisonment of 1 month and 1 day to 1 year. Those found guilty of engaging in such acts with minors, which the law defines as persons less than 15 years of age, face penalties of imprisonment from 1 to 5 years. The law also establishes penalties including imprisonment from 2 to 5 years if a school official commits a sex offense involving a female student. The ILO's Committee of Experts has raised questions about whether the country's laws adequately protect children under 18 from prostitution.⁹⁰⁷

The law does not specifically prohibit trafficking.⁹⁰⁸ However, traffickers can be prosecuted under anti-slavery laws, laws against sexual exploitation, mandatory school-age laws, the labor code, and laws against prostitution.⁹⁰⁹ In addition, the law establishes a penalty of imprisonment from 5 to 10 years for any person who abducts or causes the abduction of a child younger than 15 years old.⁹¹⁰

The Ministry of Civil Service, Labor and Social Security, specifically its Labor Inspection body, is tasked with implementing and enforcing child labor laws.⁹¹¹ However, the Ministry lacks sufficient resources for enforcement and has only 47 labor inspectors.⁹¹² The U.S. Department of State reports that enforcement of child labor laws occurs infrequently.⁹¹³ Community brigades have been established to punish persons responsible for forcing children into prostitution. However, few cases have been prosecuted because of the reluctance of victims' families to press charges.⁹¹⁴ The government does not currently investigate trafficking cases.⁹¹⁵

⁹⁰³ ILO NATLEX National Labor Law Database, *Central African Republic: Elimination of Child Labour*. See also UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Initial Reports of States Parties Due in 1994*, para 62.

⁹⁰⁴ U.S. Embassy- Bangui, *reporting, November 29, 2006*.

⁹⁰⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Central African Republic," Sections 6c and 6d.

⁹⁰⁶ UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Initial Reports of States Parties Due in 1994*, para 61. See also Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Central African Republic," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, London, 2004; available from <http://www.child-soldiers.org/regions/country.html?id=41>.

⁹⁰⁷ UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Initial Reports of States Parties Due in 1994*. See also ILO Committee of Experts, *Direct request, Worst Forms of Child Labor Convention, 1999 (No. 182) Central African Republic (ratification: 2000)*, May 4, 2007, Clause b1; available from <http://webfusion.ilo.org>.

⁹⁰⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Central African Republic," Section 5.

⁹⁰⁹ *Ibid.*

⁹¹⁰ *Code Pénal de la République Centrafricaine*, (2000), Article 212.

⁹¹¹ U.S. Embassy- Bangui, *reporting, November 29, 2006*. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Central African Republic," Section 6d.

⁹¹² U.S. Embassy- Bangui, *reporting, November 29, 2006*. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Central African Republic," Section 5.

⁹¹³ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Central African Republic," Section 6d.

⁹¹⁴ UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, *Summary Record of the 658th Meeting: Central African Republic*, [online] 2001 [cited October 4, 2006], Section 28; available from [http://www.unhchr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/\(Symbol\)/7c0595bc56c343b5c12569f500598d21?Opendocument](http://www.unhchr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/(Symbol)/7c0595bc56c343b5c12569f500598d21?Opendocument).

⁹¹⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Central African Republic," Section 5.

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

Research has not identified any policies or programs by the Government of the Central African Republic to specifically address exploitive child labor.

Chad

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2004, approximately 56.1 percent of boys and 49.7 percent of girls ages 5 to 14 were working in Chad.⁹²⁷ Children work in agriculture and herding throughout the country, and as street vendors, manual laborers, helpers in small shops, and domestic servants in the capital.⁹²⁸

There have been reports of children being

contracted out by their parents to nomadic herders to tend their animals; some such children are subjected to forced labor.⁹²⁹ There have also been reports of child soldiering. It was reported by U.N. officials that more than 4,700 men and boys were forcibly taken away from

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 2004:	53% ⁹¹⁶
Minimum age for admission to work:	14 ⁹¹⁷
Age to which education is compulsory:	12 ⁹¹⁸
Free public education:	Yes ^{919*}
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:	82% ⁹²⁰
Net primary enrollment rate in 2003:	57% ⁹²¹
Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 2004:	39.6% ⁹²²
As of 2002, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	35% ⁹²³
Ratified Convention 138:	3/21/2005 ⁹²⁴
Ratified Convention 182:	11/6/2000 ⁹²⁵
ILO-IPEC Participating Country:	No ⁹²⁶
* In certain instances, parents have been required to pay teachers' salaries.	

⁹¹⁶ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, March 1, 2007.

⁹¹⁷ Government of Chad, *Code du travail tchadien*, Loi No. 038/PR/96, (December 11, 1996); available from <http://www.cefod.org/Fichiers%20web/Code%20du%20travail%20tchadien.htm>.

⁹¹⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Chad," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78726.htm>.

⁹¹⁹ *Ibid.* See also U.S. Embassy- N'djamena, *reporting, January 30, 2007*, para 26.

⁹²⁰ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Rate. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

⁹²¹ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

⁹²² UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Survival Rate to Grade 5. Total*, accessed December 18, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

⁹²³ *Ibid.*

⁹²⁴ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, accessed October 13, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/newratframeE.htm>.

⁹²⁵ *Ibid.*

⁹²⁶ ILO-IPEC, *IPEC Action Against Child Labor - Highlights 2006*, Geneva, 2006; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ippec/prod/eng/20070228_Implementationreport_en_Web.pdf.

⁹²⁷ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

⁹²⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Chad," Section 6d.

⁹²⁹ *Ibid.* See also Integrated Regional Information Networks, "Chad: Children sold into slavery for the price of a calf", IRINnews.org, [online], December 21, 2004 [cited October 11, 2006]; available from <http://www.irinnews.org/report.asp?ReportID=44768>.

their families in Chad by Sudanese fighters to work as porters and gun cleaners for the Sudanese fighting forces.⁹³⁰ A 2003 study by ECPAT estimated that more than 11,000 Chadian children live and work on the streets and often fall victim to violence, including sexual exploitation.⁹³¹

Chad is a country of origin, transit, and destination for children trafficked for sexual exploitation and forced labor. The majority of children are trafficked within Chad for work in domestic service, begging, and herding.⁹³² Children are trafficked from the Central African Republic and Cameroon for commercial sexual exploitation to Chad's oil-producing regions, and Chadian children are trafficked to the Central African Republic, Nigeria, Cameroon, and possibly Saudi Arabia.⁹³³ There are reports that *mahadjir* children, who attend Islamic schools, are forced by their teachers to beg for food and money.⁹³⁴

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum age for employment in Chad at 14 years, except for apprenticeships (13 years) or for certain tasks that require the permission of the legal representative of the child, as well as permission from the Minister of Public Health and the Minister of Labor and Social Security.⁹³⁵ Night work by children under age 18 is prohibited.⁹³⁶ Children under age 18 are also prohibited from doing work likely to harm their health, safety, or morals.⁹³⁷

The judicial system is loosely linked to child labor prosecutions because of the absence of child labor provisions in the penal code.⁹³⁸ The labor code prohibits forced and bonded labor.⁹³⁹ Children must be at least 18 to volunteer for the armed forces and 20 to be conscripted⁹⁴⁰

⁹³⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Chad," Sections 1g, 5, and 6d. Human Rights Watch, *Early to War: Child Soldiers in the Chad Conflict*, Vol. 19, No. 9 (A), New York, July, 2007; available from <http://hrw.org/reports/2007/chad0707/>. See also Integrated Regional Information Networks, "Some 80,000 Children at Risk in Lawless East", IRINnews.org, [online], May 17, 2006 [cited June 5, 2006]; available from <http://www.irinnews.org/Report.aspx?ReportId=59052>.

⁹³¹ ECPAT International CSEC Database, *Chad*, accessed October 13, 2006; available from <http://www.ecpat.net>.

⁹³² U.S. Department of State, "Chad (Tier 2)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/65988.htm>.

⁹³³ *Ibid.*

⁹³⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Chad."

⁹³⁵ Government of Chad, *Code du travail tchadien*, Article 18 and 52. See also, U.S. Department of State, "Chad," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2005*, Washington, DC, March 8, 2006, Section 6d; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2005/61561.htm>.

⁹³⁶ Government of Chad, *Code du travail tchadien*, Article 206.

⁹³⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Chad," Section 6d. See also UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Initial Reports of State Parties due in 1992: Chad*, CRC/C/3/Add.50, prepared by Government of the Republic of Chad, pursuant to Article 44 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, July 1997, para. 197; available from [http://www.unhchr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/\(Symbol\)/CRC.C.3.Add.50.En?OpenDocument](http://www.unhchr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/(Symbol)/CRC.C.3.Add.50.En?OpenDocument).

⁹³⁸ U.S. Embassy- N'djamena, *reporting, January 30, 2007*.

⁹³⁹ Government of Chad, *Code du travail tchadien*, Article 5. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Chad."

⁹⁴⁰ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Chad," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, London, 2004; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=765.

According to the U.S. State Department, child labor laws are not enforced for lack of resources.⁹⁴¹

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

In July 2006, Chad was 1 of 24 countries to adopt the Multilateral Cooperative Agreement to Combat Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children, in West and Central Africa and the Joint Plan of Action against Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children in the West and Central African Regions. As part of the Multilateral Cooperative Agreement, the governments agreed to put into place the child trafficking monitoring system developed by the USDOL-funded ILO-IPEC LUTRENA project; to ensure that birth certificates and travel identity documents cannot easily be falsified or altered; to provide assistance to each other in the investigation, arrest and prosecution of trafficking offenders; to protect, rehabilitate, and reintegrate trafficking victims; and to improve educational systems, vocational training and apprenticeships.⁹⁴² The government focused its efforts on preventing trafficking through raising awareness. The government also took measures to train police, customs, and other government officials on trafficking, and it continued to revise the legal code. The government sponsored educational media campaigns to inform parents and children about the dangers of trafficking.⁹⁴³

The Ministries of Labor and Justice conducted awareness campaigns and training seminars on the worst forms of child labor for religious leaders, traditional chiefs, and parliamentarians. Some children involved in exploitive child labor were rescued by military, police, and NGOs.⁹⁴⁴ In March 2006 the government supported workshops to establish a system of rescuing and reintegrating child herders. According to UNICEF, 360 child herders were identified, rescued, and reintegrated into their communities in 2006.⁹⁴⁵

The problem of child soldiers is being addressed by the government along with UNICEF, who are both supporting a comprehensive survey on child soldiers to be conducted in 2007.⁹⁴⁶

⁹⁴¹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Chad," Section 6d.

⁹⁴² ECOWAS and ECASS, *Multilateral Cooperation Agreement to Combat Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, in West and Central Africa*, Abuja, July 7, 2006. See also ILO-IPEC, *Combating the Trafficking of Children for Labour Exploitation in West and Central Africa (LUTRENA)*, technical progress report, Washington, DC, September 1, 2006.

⁹⁴³ U.S. Department of State, "Chad," in *Trafficking in Persons Report*- Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/65988.htm>.

⁹⁴⁴ U.S. Embassy- N'djamena, *reporting, January 30, 2007*. U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Chad."

⁹⁴⁵ U.S. Embassy- N'djamena, *reporting, January 30, 2007*, para 20.

⁹⁴⁶ *Ibid.*, para 9.

Chile

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2003, approximately 4.4 percent of boys and 2.6 percent of girls ages 5 to 14 were working in Chile. The majority of working children were found in the services sector (66.6 percent), followed by agriculture (24.7 percent), manufacturing (6.6 percent), and other sectors (2 percent).⁹⁵⁸ The rate of child work is

higher in rural than in urban areas, although the absolute number of working children is higher in urban areas. In urban areas children work in supermarkets, waiting tables in restaurants, selling goods on the street, caring for parked automobiles, and assisting in

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 2003:	3.5% ⁹⁴⁷
Minimum age for admission to work:	18 ⁹⁴⁸
Age to which education is compulsory:	12 ⁹⁴⁹
Free public education:	Yes ⁹⁵⁰
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:	104% ⁹⁵¹
Net primary enrollment rate in 2003:	85% ⁹⁵²
Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 2003:	97.2% ⁹⁵³
As of 2003, percentage of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	99% ⁹⁵⁴
Ratified Convention 138:	2/1/1999 ⁹⁵⁵
Ratified Convention 182:	7/17/2000 ⁹⁵⁶
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Yes ⁹⁵⁷

⁹⁴⁷ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, October 7, 2005.

⁹⁴⁸ Government of Chile, *Código del Trabajo de Chile (vigencia desde el 14 de febrero de 2007)*, (1994), Section 5; available from http://www.dt.gob.cl/legislacion/1611/article-59096.html#h2_1.

⁹⁴⁹ Ministry of Education, *Reforma Educacional 12 Años de Escolaridad*, [online] 2006 [cited September 28 2006]; available from http://www.mineduc.cl/index.php?id_portal=1&id_seccion=990&id_contenido=936.

⁹⁵⁰ Ministry of Education, *Hito Sin Precedentes en América Latina*, [online] [cited October 20, 2006]; available from http://biblioteca.mineduc.cl/documento/12_anos.pdf.

⁹⁵¹ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

⁹⁵² UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Rate. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

⁹⁵³ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

⁹⁵⁴ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Survival Rate to Grade 5. Total*, accessed December 18, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

⁹⁵⁵ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, accessed October 20, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/newratframeE.htm>.

⁹⁵⁶ Ibid. See also ILO-IPEC, *Ficha País: Chile*, Lima; available from

<http://www.oit.org.pe/spanish/260ameri/oitreg/activid/proyectos/ipecc/documentos/fichachile.pdf>.

⁹⁵⁷ ILO-IPEC, *Ficha País: Chile*.

⁹⁵⁸ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, October 7, 2005.

construction activities. In rural areas, children are involved in harvesting, collecting and selling crops, and caring for farm animals.⁹⁵⁹

Children are victims of commercial sexual exploitation, in some cases as a result of internal trafficking from rural areas to cities such as Santiago, Iquique, and Valparaiso. Anecdotal reporting suggests that girls have been trafficked to other countries for prostitution after being misled by false newspaper ads recruiting models and product promoters.⁹⁶⁰

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum age for employment without restrictions at 18 years. Children 16 to 18 must obtain permission from their parents or guardians to work. The law establishes that children age 15 may only perform light work that will not affect their health or school attendance, and only with parental permission.⁹⁶¹ Children under 18 are also not permitted to work at night between the hours of 10 p.m. and 7 a.m. (excluding work in a family business), or in nightclubs or similar establishments in which alcohol is consumed.⁹⁶² All persons under the age of 21 are prohibited from working underground without undergoing a physical exam.⁹⁶³ Penalties include fines, which increase in cases of repeat offenders.⁹⁶⁴

Chilean laws prohibit slavery and forced labor.⁹⁶⁵ The minimum age for compulsory military service in Chile is 18.⁹⁶⁶ The prostitution of children is punishable by prison sentences and fines.⁹⁶⁷ The law establishes punishments for the production, sale, importation, exportation, distribution, and exhibition of pornography using minors.⁹⁶⁸ Chilean law prohibits trafficking for prostitution and imposes prison terms of 5 to 20 years if the victim is under 18 years.⁹⁶⁹

The Ministry of Interior coordinates national efforts to combat trafficking in persons. The Undersecretary of the Interior heads a new committee that includes the Public Prosecutor's

⁹⁵⁹ Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare, National Statistics Institute, and National Minors Service, *Trabajo infantil y adolescente en cifras: Síntesis de la primera encuesta nacional y registro de sus peores formas*, ILO-IPEC, Santiago, 2004; available from <http://www.oit.org.pe/ipec/documentos/chile.pdf>.

⁹⁶⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Chile," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78884.htm>.

⁹⁶¹ Government of Chile, *Código del Trabajo*, Article 13.

⁹⁶² *Ibid.*, Article 13, 15 and 18.

⁹⁶³ *Ibid.*, Article 14.

⁹⁶⁴ *Ibid.*, Article 14 and 17.

⁹⁶⁵ Government of Chile, *Constitución Política de 1980 incluidas las Reformas hasta el 2005*, Articles 2 and 16; available from <http://www.georgetown.edu/pdba/Constitutions/Chile/chile01.html>.

⁹⁶⁶ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "*Chile*" in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, London 2004; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=819. All Chileans must register for military service when they turn 18.

⁹⁶⁷ Government of Chile, *Código Penal de la República de Chile*, Article 367; available from <http://www.unifr.ch/derechopenal/legislacion/cl/cpchindx.html>. See also Government of Chile, *Modifica el Código Penal, El Código de Procedimiento Penal, y el Código Procesal Penal en Materia de Delitos de Pornografía Infantil*, 19,927, (January 5, 2004), Article 1; available from http://www.anuariocdh.uchile.cl/anuario/documentos/10.Ley%2019927_DelitoPornografiaInfantil_CHILE.pdf.

⁹⁶⁸ Government of Chile, *Modifica el Código Penal*, Articles 1 and 8.

⁹⁶⁹ Government of Chile, *Código Penal de la República de Chile*, Article 367 bis. See also U.S. Embassy- Santiago, *reporting*, March 7, 2007.

office, the Ministry of Justice, the Investigative Police, the Carabineros (uniformed police), the Department of Immigration, the National Institute for Minors (SENAME) and the Ministry of Women's Issues (SERNAM).⁹⁷⁰ The Public Prosecutor's office is in charge of all prosecutions, while the Ministry of Justice takes the lead on legal issues related to trafficking in persons. Not all forms of trafficking in persons are criminalized in Chile; public prosecutors do not investigate forms of trafficking they will be unable to prosecute. Police are often understaffed and lack basic resources to address trafficking cases.⁹⁷¹

The Ministry of Labor enforces labor laws.⁹⁷² The U.S. Department of State reports that Chile is devoting adequate resources and oversight to child labor policies. During 2006, 1,123 violations were reported in which children and adolescents were engaged in the worst forms of child labor.⁹⁷³

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

As part of its 2001-2010 National Policy on Childhood, the Government of Chile has adopted a national child labor action plan that focuses on raising awareness, collecting data, promoting legislative reform in compliance with ILO conventions, developing targeted intervention programs, and conducting ongoing monitoring and evaluation.⁹⁷⁴

The Government of Chile collaborates with ILO-IPEC on projects to address the worst forms of child labor. A USD 5.5 million USDOL-funded regional IPEC project works towards the prevention and elimination of child domestic labor and the commercial sexual exploitation of children.⁹⁷⁵ The Chile component of this project aims to withdraw 316 and prevent 400 children from commercial sexual exploitation.⁹⁷⁶ Government agencies including SENAME, the Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare, and the police have developed a list of the worst forms of child labor.⁹⁷⁷ Based on this list, SENAME developed and maintains a register of documented worst forms of child labor cases with input from the Chilean police forces and the

⁹⁷⁰ U.S. Embassy- Santiago, *reporting*, March 9, 2007.

⁹⁷¹ *Ibid.*

⁹⁷² Ministerio del Trabajo y Previsión Social, *Servicios Dependientes- Direccion del Trabajo*; available from http://www.mintrab.gob.cl/quienes_servicios1.php.

⁹⁷³ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Chile."

⁹⁷⁴ Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare, *Plan de Prevención y Erradicación Progresiva del Trabajo Infantil y Adolescente en Chile*, National Plan, Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare, Santiago de Chile, 2001; available from <http://www.oit.org.pe/ipcc/doc/documentos/plch.doc>. See also Ministerio del Trabajo y Previsión Social, *Contexto en Chile y el mundo*, [online] 2006 [cited September 28, 2006]; available from http://www.trabajoinfantil.cl/en_chile.html.

⁹⁷⁵ ILO-IPEC, *Prevention and elimination of child domestic labour (CDL) and of commercial sexual exploitation of children (CSEC) in Chile, Colombia, Paraguay and Peru*, project document, Geneva, September 8, 2004.

⁹⁷⁶ ILO-IPEC, *Technical Progress Report - Prevention and Elimination of CSEC in South America*, TPR, September 4 2006.

⁹⁷⁷ Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare, *Manual de Capacitación: Sistema de Registro Unico de Peores Formas de Trabajo Infantil*, Santiago, May 2003. See also Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare, *Categorías*, [online] [cited September 28, 2006]; available from www.trabajoinfantil.cl/peores_categorias.html.

Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare.⁹⁷⁸ SENAME works with international organizations and local NGOs to ensure that children rescued from trafficking are not returned to high-risk and abusive situations.⁹⁷⁹

The government is funding 16 NGOs that provide counseling, psychological and health care, and educational services to minors that are victims of trafficking.⁹⁸⁰ SENAME's strategy for combating commercial sexual exploitation of minors includes awareness raising, prevention, and victim's assistance.⁹⁸¹ SENAME oversees 10 projects to benefit children and adolescents who live in the streets, providing them with services including school reinsertion and skills training.⁹⁸² SENAME is expanding its provision of services to children and adolescents engaged in commercial sexual exploitation to four new regions, and is incorporating two new projects in Santiago.⁹⁸³

⁹⁷⁸ Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare, *Sistema de registro*, [online] 2006 [cited September 28, 2006]; available from http://www.trabajoinfantil.cl/peores_definiciones.html.

⁹⁷⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Chile," Section 6d.

⁹⁸⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Chile (Tier 2 Watch List)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/65988.htm>.

⁹⁸¹ SENAME, *Explotación Sexual Infantil: Acción del SENAME*, [online] [cited January 29 2007]; available from http://www.sename.cl/interior/explotacion/f_subportada.html.

⁹⁸² National Minors Service, *Niños de la Calle, Proyectos*, [online] [cited September 28, 2006]; available from http://www.sename.cl/interior/ninos/f_subportada.html.

⁹⁸³ SENAME, *Explotación Sexual Infantil: ¿Que hace el Sename?*, [online] [cited October 17 2006]; available from http://www.sename.cl/interior/explotacion/explotacion_04.asp.

Colombia

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2001, approximately 14.1 percent of boys and 6.6 percent of girls ages 5 to 14 were working in Colombia. The majority of working children were found in the services sector (49.9 percent), followed by agriculture (35.6 percent), manufacturing (12.6 percent) and other sectors (1.9 percent).⁹⁹⁵

The Colombian Family Welfare Institute (ICBF)

estimates that about 80 percent of working children work in the informal sector.⁹⁹⁶ In urban areas, children work primarily in such sectors as commerce, industry, and services.⁹⁹⁷ In rural

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 2001:	10.4% ⁹⁸⁴
Minimum age for admission to work:	14 ⁹⁸⁵
Age to which education is compulsory:	15 ⁹⁸⁶
Free public education:	Yes ⁹⁸⁷ *
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:	111% ⁹⁸⁸
Net primary enrollment rate in 2004:	83% ⁹⁸⁹
Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 2001:	90% ⁹⁹⁰
As of 2003, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	77% ⁹⁹¹
Ratified Convention 138:	2/2/2001 ⁹⁹²
Ratified Convention 182:	1/28/2005 ⁹⁹³
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Yes ⁹⁹⁴
*Must pay for school supplies and related items.	

⁹⁸⁴ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, October 7, 2005.

⁹⁸⁵ Government of Colombia, *Código del Menor*, Decree No. 2737, (November 27, 1989); available from <http://www.icbf.gov.co/espanol/normatividad2.asp>.

⁹⁸⁶ Government of Colombia, *Constitución Política de Colombia de 1991, con reformas hasta marzo 2005*, Article 67; available from <http://www.georgetown.edu/pdba/>.

⁹⁸⁷ Government of Colombia, *Código de la Infancia y la Adolescencia*, Ley 1098 of 2006, (August 29, 2006), Article 28; available from http://www.secretariasenado.gov.co/compendio_legislativo.htm. See also U.S. Department of State, "Colombia," in *Country Report on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2005/61721.htm>.

⁹⁸⁸ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

⁹⁸⁹ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Rate. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

⁹⁹⁰ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

⁹⁹¹ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Survival Rate to Grade 5. Total*, accessed December 18, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

⁹⁹² ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, accessed December 16, 2005; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/newratframeE.htm>.

⁹⁹³ ILO, *IPEC Action Against Child Labor- Highlights 2006*, [online] February 2007 [cited March 29, 2007]; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ipec/prod/eng/20070228_Implementationreport_en_Web.pdf.

⁹⁹⁴ ILO, *IPEC Action Against Child Labor- Highlights 2006*, [online] February, 2007 [cited March 29, 2007]; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ipec/prod/eng/20070228_Implementationreport_en_Web.pdf.

⁹⁹⁵ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

⁹⁹⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Colombia."

areas, children work primarily in agriculture and commerce.⁹⁹⁸ Many children work as domestic servants or in family businesses, often without pay.⁹⁹⁹ Children mine emeralds, gold, clay, and coal under dangerous conditions.¹⁰⁰⁰ According to the Colombia Department of National Statistics and the Colombian National Mining Company (MINERCOL), estimates of children working in illegal mines range from 10,000 to 200,000.¹⁰⁰¹ Children are also used in the cultivation of coca and opium for illegal purposes and in the processing of illicit drugs using harsh chemicals.¹⁰⁰²

Many children are victims of commercial sexual exploitation, including pornography, prostitution, and sexual tourism.¹⁰⁰³ An estimated 25,000 minors work in commercial sex trade in Colombia, according to a report by the Inspector General's Office, and Colombia is a major source of girls trafficked for the purpose of commercial sexual exploitation.¹⁰⁰⁴ Children are trafficked internally from rural to urban areas for sexual exploitation and forced labor.¹⁰⁰⁵

Children in Colombia are recruited, sometimes forcibly, by insurgent and paramilitary groups to serve as combatants in the country's ongoing conflict. In fact, the average age for deserters from these armed groups has gone down, which suggests that younger children are being recruited.¹⁰⁰⁶ Some children have been required to perform forced labor by guerrillas and paramilitaries.¹⁰⁰⁷ Many are forced to participate in and are victims of human rights violations

⁹⁹⁷ National Administrative Department of Statistics, *Encuesta Nacional de Trabajo Infantil: Análisis de los resultados de la encuesta sobre caracterización de la población entre 5 y 17 años en Colombia*, Bogota, November 2001, 55; available from http://www.ilo.org/public/spanish/standards/ipecc/simloc/colombia/report/co_rep_2001_sp.pdf.

⁹⁹⁸ *Ibid.*

⁹⁹⁹ *Ibid.*, page 125.

¹⁰⁰⁰ ILO-IPEC, *Diagnóstico sobre el Trabajo Infantil en el Sector Minero Artesanal en Colombia*, Lima, 2001, 49, 50, 61 and 62; available from

http://www.oit.org.pe/ipecc/documentos/http://www.oit.org.pe_ipecc_boletin_documentos_mineriacol.pdf.

¹⁰⁰¹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Colombia," Section 6d.

¹⁰⁰² U.S. Embassy- Bogotá official, Email communication to USDOL official, July 31, 2007. See also, IOM, *Panorama sobre la trata de personas. Desafíos y Respuestas: Colombia, Estados Unidos y República Dominicana* (Bogota: IOM, 2006), 20; available from

<http://www.oim.org.co/modulos/contenido/default.asp?idmodulo=7&idlibro=115>. See also United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Consideration of Reports Submitted by States Parties Under Article 44 of the Convention, Concluding Observations: Colombia*, CRC/COL.CO/3, Forty-second session, June 8 2006, para 82 and 88; available from

[http://www.unhcr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/\(Symbol\)/7ca95bbddbe4f74c4125617b0052d960?Opendocument](http://www.unhcr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/(Symbol)/7ca95bbddbe4f74c4125617b0052d960?Opendocument).

¹⁰⁰³ IOM, *Panorama sobre la trata de personas.*, 18. See also Ministry of Social Protection, *Informe especial sobre violencia contra la infancia en Colombia*, Bogota, , 2006, 231; available from

<http://www.minproteccionsocial.gov.co/entornoambiental/library/documents/DocNewsNo15086DocumentNo1819.PDF>. See also U.S. Department of State, "Colombia," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2007*, Washington, D.C., March 5, 2007; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/>.

¹⁰⁰⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Colombia," Section 5.

¹⁰⁰⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Colombia (Tier 1)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/>. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Colombia," Section 5.

¹⁰⁰⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Colombia," Section 5, 6d. See also United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Concluding Observations: Colombia*, para. 80. See also Ministry of Social Protection, *Informe especial sobre violencia contra la infancia en Colombia*, 187-228. See also U.S. Embassy- Bogotá official, Email communication, July 31, 2007.

¹⁰⁰⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Colombia," Section 5c.

such as torture and murder.¹⁰⁰⁸ Many girl combatants are subject to sexual exploitation by other group members.¹⁰⁰⁹ Reportedly, children have been used by government armed forces as informants.¹⁰¹⁰

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The minimum employment age in Colombia was 14 years in 2006; however, ICBF may make exceptions for 12 and 13 year-olds under special circumstances.¹⁰¹¹ Authorization from a labor inspector or other designated authority is required for minors to work.¹⁰¹² The law limits children's working hours. Children between 12 and 14 may only work 4 hours per day; those between 14 and 16 may work 6 hours per day; and those between 16 and 18 may work 8 hours per day.¹⁰¹³ While night work is prohibited, 16- and 17-year-olds can work until 8 p.m. if authorized.¹⁰¹⁴ The law also prohibits minors from work that may harm their morality as well as work that is exploitive or hazardous.¹⁰¹⁵ A new law regulating conditions under which children can work was being developed as this report was being developed.

The 2005 Ministry of Social Protection (MSP) Resolution #4448 identifies the worst forms of child labor that are prohibited for all minors under 18. Minors are not permitted to perform most work related to: agricultural work destined for market, such as coffee, flowers, sugarcane, cereals, vegetables, fruits, tobacco, and livestock; fisheries; lumber; mining or work underground; industrial manufacturing and bakeries; utilities; construction, painting, and heavy equipment; transportation or warehousing; healthcare; defense and private security; and unskilled labor such as shoe-shining, domestic service, trash collection, messenger service, doormen, gardening, work in clubs and bars, and street sales.¹⁰¹⁶ Minors must also not work in conditions where there are loud noises, strong vibrations, rigorous environments, dangerous substances, poor lighting or ventilation, activities underground or underwater, biological or chemical materials, safety risks, or problems due to posture or excessive physical activity.¹⁰¹⁷ Also, minors may not work under conditions that may harm their psychosocial development, such as work without pay; work that interferes with schooling; work that keeps them

¹⁰⁰⁸ Human Rights Watch, *You'll Learn Not to Cry: Child Combatants in Colombia*, Washington, DC, September 2003, 68-77 and 88-98; available from <http://www.hrw.org/reports/2003/colombia0903/>.

¹⁰⁰⁹ United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Concluding Observations: Colombia*, para. 80. See also Human Rights Watch, *You'll Learn Not to Cry*, 53-59.

¹⁰¹⁰ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Colombia," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, London, 2004. See also Human Rights Watch, *You'll Learn Not to Cry*, 102-103. See also United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Concluding Observations: Colombia*, para 80.

¹⁰¹¹ *Código del Menor*, (November 27, 1989), Article 237-238; available from www.icbf.gov.co/espanol/normatividad2.asp.

¹⁰¹² *Ibid.*, Articles 238-239.

¹⁰¹³ *Ibid.*, Article 242.

¹⁰¹⁴ *Ibid.*

¹⁰¹⁵ *Ibid.*, Articles 245 and 246.

¹⁰¹⁶ Ministry of Social Protection, *Resolución No 004448: por la cual se desarrolla la facultad contenida en el Código del Menor* (December 2, 2005); available from <http://www.minproteccionsocial.gov.co/MseContent/images/news/DocNewsNo648901.doc>.

¹⁰¹⁷ Government of Colombia, *Resolución No 4448: por la cual se desarrolla la facultad contenida en el numeral 23 del artículo 245 del Decreto 2737 de 1989 o Código del Menor*, (December 2, 2005); available from <http://www.minproteccionsocial.gov.co/MseContent/images/news/DocNewsNo648901.doc>.

separated from their families; work under despotic or abusive conditions; in illegal or immoral situations; or between 8 p.m. and 6 a.m., except for minors over age 16 (this exception is contrary to provisions in other laws).¹⁰¹⁸ Individuals must report child labor law violations to MSP.¹⁰¹⁹ Penalties for violating child labor laws can include fines and the temporary or permanent closure of violating establishments.¹⁰²⁰ The ILO CEACR has requested clarification on exceptions in Resolution #4448 that allow adolescents ages 16 and 17 to work at night.¹⁰²¹

The Constitution prohibits slavery and servitude.¹⁰²² Human trafficking is prohibited, and trafficking of children under 18 is punishable by fines and 17 to 35 years incarceration. Trafficking of children under 12 years is punishable by 20 to 35 years imprisonment.¹⁰²³ Inducing prostitution is punishable by 2.7 to 6 years incarceration and fines. Penalties for forced prostitution range from 6.7 to 13.5 years incarceration and fines. Penalties increase by one-third to one-half for both induced and forced prostitution if the victim is under 14 or if the crime involved international trafficking.¹⁰²⁴ Crimes involving child pornography or the operation of an establishment in which minors practice sexual acts are punishable by 8 to 12 years incarceration and fines.¹⁰²⁵ The use of the mail or the Internet to obtain or offer sexual contact with a minor is punishable by 6.7 to 15 years incarceration and a fine, with increased penalties if the victim is under 12.¹⁰²⁶ Posting child pornography on the Internet is punishable by fines and the cancellation or suspension of the Web site.¹⁰²⁷ Tourist agencies can be penalized for involvement in child sex tourism by fines and the suspension or cancellation of their registration.¹⁰²⁸ Forced prostitution and sexual slavery related to the country's ongoing conflict are punishable by imprisonment from 13.3 to 27 years and fines.¹⁰²⁹

Minors may not serve in the government armed forces or perform defense-related or intelligence activities.¹⁰³⁰ The recruitment of minors by armed groups in relation to the ongoing conflict is punishable by 8 to 15 years in prison and fines.¹⁰³¹ The law regards minors that participate in the country's hostilities as victims.¹⁰³² The commission of terrorist acts involving

¹⁰¹⁸ *Ibid.*

¹⁰¹⁹ *Código del Menor*, Article 247.

¹⁰²⁰ *Ibid.*, Articles 262-263.

¹⁰²¹ ILO, *Individual Direct Request concerning Night Work of Young Persons (Industry) Convention, 1919 (No. 6) Colombia (ratification: 1983)*, Geneva, 2007; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/newcountryframeE.htm>.

¹⁰²² Government of Colombia, *Constitución Política de Colombia*, Article 17.

¹⁰²³ *Ibid.* See also Government of Colombia, *Código Penal, with modifications*, (July 24, 2000), Articles 188-A and 188-B; available from http://www.secretariasenado.gov.co/compendio_legislativo.HTM.

¹⁰²⁴ Government of Colombia, *Código Penal, with modifications*, Art. 213, 214, and 216.

¹⁰²⁵ *Ibid.*, Articles 218.

¹⁰²⁶ *Ibid.*, Article 219-A.

¹⁰²⁷ Government of Colombia, *Decree 1524*, (July 24, 2002), Articles 4 and 9; available from <http://www.uris.com/leyes/dec/1524.htm>. See also Government of Colombia, *Law 679*, (August 4, 2001), Articles 7 and 10; available from <http://www.secretariasenado.gov.co/leyes/L0679001>.

¹⁰²⁸ Government of Colombia, *Law 679*, Articles 19-20.

¹⁰²⁹ Government of Colombia, *Código Penal, with modifications*, Article 141.

¹⁰³⁰ Government of Colombia, *Resolución 004448*, Article 1 and 9.1. See also Government of Colombia, *Decreto 128 sobre política de reincorporación a la vida civil*, (2003); available from http://www.presidencia.gov.co/prensa_new/decretoslinea/.

¹⁰³¹ Government of Colombia, *Código Penal, with modifications*, Article 162.

¹⁰³² Government of Colombia, *Ley 782*, (December 23, 2002), Article 15; available from http://www.altocomisionadoparalapaz.gov.co/juridicos/ley_782.pdf.

the participation of a minor is punishable by 16 to 30 years incarceration and fines.¹⁰³³ Armed groups must place all minor recruits with ICBF in order to participate in the government's demobilization process.¹⁰³⁴ Punishments for crimes involving illegal drugs, such as drug cultivation, manufacturing, and trafficking are increased if the crimes involve a minor.¹⁰³⁵

The MSP is responsible for conducting formal sector child labor inspections, with 276 inspectors.¹⁰³⁶ However, according to the U.S. Department of State, the MSP does not have sufficient resources to enforce labor laws effectively.¹⁰³⁷ ICBF, the Children and Adolescent Police, the Prosecutor General, and Family Commissioners are responsible for enforcing child labor laws.¹⁰³⁸ The National Police and Prosecutor General investigate and prosecute child trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation.¹⁰³⁹ The District Attorney's Office has a unit dedicated to trafficking, sexual violence and victims who are minors.¹⁰⁴⁰

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Colombian Government's National Development Plan 2002-2006 establishes the eradication of exploitive child labor as a priority.¹⁰⁴¹ The Plan for Childhood (2004-2015) contains provisions relating to child labor, and to specific worst forms including trafficking, recruitment into armed groups, and commercial sexual exploitation.¹⁰⁴² The objectives of the Third Plan for the Elimination of Child Labor and the Protection of Working Youth 2003-2006 are to increase knowledge and awareness; change cultural norms that promote child labor; improve legislation and public policy; and implement strategies that address these problems.¹⁰⁴³ The Inter-institutional Committee for the Eradication of Child Labor has conducted trainings; it also maintains a child labor information system.¹⁰⁴⁴ The MSP and the

¹⁰³³ Government of Colombia, *Código Penal, with modifications*, Articles 343 and 344.

¹⁰³⁴ Government of Colombia, *Ley 975*, (July 25, 2005), Article 10; available from <http://www.presidencia.gov.co/leyes/2005/julio/ley975250705.pdf>. See also Government of Colombia, *Decreto 4760 Por el cual se reglamenta parcialmente la ley 975 de 2005*, (December 30, 2005), Article 3; available from <http://www.altocomisionadoparalapaz.gov.co/noticias/2006/enero/documentos/decreto4760.pdf>.

¹⁰³⁵ Government of Colombia, *Código Penal, with modifications*, Articles 375 and 384.

¹⁰³⁶ *Código del Menor*, Article 261. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Colombia," Section 6d.

¹⁰³⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Colombia," Section 6d.

¹⁰³⁸ *Código de la Infancia y la Adolescencia, Ley 1098 of 2006*, (November 8, 2006), Articles 11, 79-95; available from http://www.secretariassenado.gov.co/compendio_legislativo.htm. See also *Código del Menor*, Article 288.

¹⁰³⁹ National Agency for Police News, *Operación "Patria 36 y 37"*, press release, Montería, June 2006; available from <http://www.policia.gov.co/inicio/portal/portal.nsf/paginas/BoletinesdePrensa>. See also National Agency for Police News, *Operación República 5*, press release, Bogota, February 14, 2006; available from <http://www.policia.gov.co/inicio/portal/portal.nsf/paginas/BoletinesdePrensa>.

¹⁰⁴⁰ *Dimensiones de la trata de personas en Colombia*, 28.

¹⁰⁴¹ National Planning Department, *Plan Nacional de Desarrollo 2002-2006: Hacia un Estado Comunitario*, Bogota, , 2003, 209; available from http://www.dnp.gov.co/archivos/documentos/GCRP_PND/PND.pdf.

¹⁰⁴² Government of Colombia, *Plan Decenal de Infancia (2004-2015) para Colombia*, 20, 31, 33, 35-36, 40-41; available from <http://www.icbf.gov.co/espanol/decenal.htm>.

¹⁰⁴³ ILO and Inter-institutional Committee for the Eradication of Child Labor and Protection of the Youth Worker, *III Plan Nacional para la Erradicación del Trabajo Infantil y la Protección del Trabajo Juvenil 2003-2006*, Bogotá, 2003, 51-52; available from http://www.oit.org.pe/ipec/documentos/3erplan03_06.pdf.

¹⁰⁴⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Colombia," Section 6d.

National University of Colombia have worked to eradicate exploitive child labor through a media campaign, community and school education, and inter-institutional coordination.¹⁰⁴⁵

The Government of Colombia also participates in projects to combat child labor with the assistance of foreign governments and international organizations. The government participates in a USD 3.5 million, 4-year USDOL-funded project implemented by World Vision to combat exploitive child labor by improving basic education. This project seeks to withdraw 2,081 children from hazardous agricultural labor and prevent a further 2,419 children from entering that work.¹⁰⁴⁶ The Colombian Institute of Geology and Mining implements a project with UNDP to eradicate child labor in mining.¹⁰⁴⁷ With support from ILO-IPEC and Canada, the government executed a child labor survey and contributed to the consolidation of the National Policy for the Prevention and Elimination of Child Labor.¹⁰⁴⁸

ICBF administers programs that provide services to former children soldiers and seek to prevent further recruitment of children by armed groups.¹⁰⁴⁹ These programs receive assistance from the United States and from several foreign governments and international organizations.¹⁰⁵⁰ The Ministries of Defense and Interior assist through the demobilization of child soldiers, who are turned over to the ICBF.¹⁰⁵¹ The Colombian Government participated in a 3-year, USD 7 million, inter-regional ILO-IPEC project funded by USDOL to combat the involvement of children with armed groups. This project, which ended in 2007, sought to withdraw 5,264 children from child soldiering and prevent an additional 4,250 children from becoming child soldiers in seven countries, including Colombia.¹⁰⁵²

The Government of Colombia has developed a National Plan of Action for the Prevention and Eradication of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Boys, Girls, and Adolescents Less than 18

¹⁰⁴⁵ Center for Social Studies National University of Colombia, *Informe sobre las acciones realizadas en el desarrollo del convenio interadministrativo 047 de 2005*, Bogota, June 9, 2006, 3-4.

¹⁰⁴⁶ World Vision, *Combating Exploitive Child Labor Through Education in Colombia*, project document, Washington, DC, 2005.

¹⁰⁴⁷ ICBF, "PEPTIMA, un ejemplo para las comunidades mineras," *Diálogos*, July 2005, 8; available from http://www.oit.org.pe/spanish/260ameri/oitreg/activid/proyectos/ipecc/documentos/bol_min_col_icbf.pdf. See also Maria del Pilar Gómez Herrera, "De la oscuridad de las minas a la luz de la fotografía," in *Hechos del Callejón*, Bogota: UNDP, October 2006, 18 and 20; available from http://indh.pnud.org.co/files/boletin_hechos/Boletin_hechos_del_callejon_19_opt.pdf.

¹⁰⁴⁸ ILO-IPEC official, Email communication to USDOL official, November 16, 2006.

¹⁰⁴⁹ Colombian Family Welfare Institute, *Servicios del Instituto Colombiano de Bienestar Familiar*, [online] [cited October 8, 2006]; available from <http://www.icbf.gov.co/espanol/general1.asp>. See also, IOM and U.S. Agency for International Development Mission to Colombia, *Post-Emergency Assistance to Displaced Groups, Receptor Communities and Vulnerable Populations Program, 22nd Quarterly Report*, March 2006; available from http://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/PDACH020.pdf. See also, IOM, *Programmes and Projects: Excombatant Children*, [online] [cited January 9, 2006]; available from <http://www.oim.org.co/modulos/contenido/default.asp?idmodulo=145>.

¹⁰⁵⁰ IOM, *Programmes and Projects: Excombatant Children*. See also IOM and U.S. Agency for International Development Mission to Colombia, *Support Program for Ex-Combatant Children- Colombia, 20th Quarterly Report*, March 2006, 3; available from http://dec.usaid.gov/index.cfm?p=search.getCitation&CFID=4892846&CFTOKEN=34010000&rec_no=140442.

¹⁰⁵¹ Ministry of Defense, *Reclutamiento de Menores: Otra agresión de los grupos ilegales contra la niñez colombiana*, January 26, 2006; available from <http://alpha.mindefensa.gov.co/index.php?page=181&id=3295>.

¹⁰⁵² ILO-IPEC, *Prevention and Reintegration of Children Involved in Armed Conflict: An Inter-Regional Program*, project document, Geneva, September 17, 2003.

Years of Age (2006-2011). This plan establishes such objectives as generating information, developing and applying legislation, prevention, provision of services to children, institutional capacity building, and participation of children in the plan.¹⁰⁵³ The National Police's program, "Colombia without Prostitution," uses family and community education to prevent the commercial sexual exploitation of children.¹⁰⁵⁴ The government participates in a USDOL-funded ILO-IPEC regional project costing USD 5.5 million to combat child domestic labor and commercial sexual exploitation. The goal of this project is to withdraw 2,185 children from exploitive child labor and prevent 2,920 children from entering such work.¹⁰⁵⁵

The Inter-institutional Committee against Trafficking in Persons and various ministries have implemented various anti-trafficking awareness-raising activities within Colombia, including enclosing flyers about trafficking in newly issued passports; installing information kiosks at major airports; producing short television ads and a daytime soap opera about trafficking; making presentations for at-risk school children; and assisting with the development of departmental and municipal anti-trafficking plans.¹⁰⁵⁶ The Committee also maintains a database of trafficking cases and promotes collaboration between agencies.¹⁰⁵⁷ Colombian foreign missions and the National Police provide assistance to trafficking victims that includes referrals to IOM repatriation services and information on legal protections.¹⁰⁵⁸

The Ministry of Education's (MEN) Policy Guide for Vulnerable Populations includes strategies to address child labor.¹⁰⁵⁹ The military distributes educational kits to schools in areas where children are at risk for recruitment into armed groups, and awareness-raising materials for children to prevent involvement in armed groups.¹⁰⁶⁰

¹⁰⁵³ ICBF-UNICEF-ILO-IPEC Fundación Renacer, *Plan de acción para la prevención y erradicación de la explotación sexual comercial de niños, niñas y adolescentes menores de 18 años 2006-20011*, Bogota, 2006, 43.

¹⁰⁵⁴ ECPAT International CSEC Database, *Colombia*, accessed June 8, 2007; available from <http://www.ecpat.net>.

¹⁰⁵⁵ ILO-IPEC, *Prevention and Elimination of Child Domestic Labour (CDL) and of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CESC) in Chile, Colombia, Paraguay and Peru*, project document, Geneva, September 8, 2004, 27.

¹⁰⁵⁶ U.S. Embassy- Bogota, *reporting*, December 6, 2005. See also U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Colombia." See also Ministry of Communication, *Qué es Internet Sano*, [online] [cited October 10, 2006]; available from http://www.internetsano.gov.co/que_es.htm. See also National Police News Agency, "Que Nadie Dañe Tus Sueños", press release, August 9, 2006; available from http://www.policia.gov.co/_85256EA10053F753.nsf/0/AA9949A80C6E0D510525712C004BFCA9?Open.

¹⁰⁵⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Colombia."

¹⁰⁵⁸ Ibid. See also U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Colombia."

¹⁰⁵⁹ Ministry of Education, *Lineamientos de política para la atención educativa a poblaciones vulnerables*, Bogota, July 2005, 32-35; available from <http://www.mineducacion.gov.co/cvn/1665/article-90668.html>.

¹⁰⁶⁰ Ministry of Defense, *Reclutamiento de Menores*. See also United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Concluding Observations: Colombia*, para 80.

Comoros

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2000, approximately 35 percent of boys and 36.2 percent of girls ages 5 to 14 were working in Comoros.¹⁰⁷² Work performed by children includes subsistence farming and fishing.¹⁰⁷³ Some children as young as 7 work as domestic servants in exchange for food, shelter, or educational assistance; these children are often subject to abuse.¹⁰⁷⁴ Children also work on the streets,¹⁰⁷⁵ and some children are not paid for work that they perform.¹⁰⁷⁶

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 2000:	35.6% ¹⁰⁶¹
Minimum age for admission to work:	15 ¹⁰⁶²
Age to which education is compulsory:	14 ¹⁰⁶³
Free public education:	No ¹⁰⁶⁴
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:	85% ¹⁰⁶⁵
Net primary enrollment rate in 2000:	55% ¹⁰⁶⁶
Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 2000:	44.2% ¹⁰⁶⁷
As of 2003, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	63% ¹⁰⁶⁸
Ratified Convention 138:	3/17/2004 ¹⁰⁶⁹
Ratified Convention 182:	3/17/2004 ¹⁰⁷⁰
ILO-IPEC participating country:	No ¹⁰⁷¹

¹⁰⁶¹ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, March 1, 2007, Articles 322, 323, and 324.

¹⁰⁶² U.S. Department of State, "Comoros," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 6d; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/>.

¹⁰⁶³ UNESCO, *EFA Global Monitoring Report: Early Childhood Care and Education*, France, 2007; available from <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0014/001477/147794E.pdf>. See also Angela Melchiorre, *At What Age?... Are School-Children Employed, Married, and Taken to Court?*, Right to Education, 2004; available from <http://www.right-to-education.org/>.

¹⁰⁶⁴ UNESCO, *EFA Global Monitoring Report: Early Childhood Care and Education*, France, 2007; available from <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0014/001477/147794E.pdf>.

¹⁰⁶⁵ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

¹⁰⁶⁶ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Rate. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

¹⁰⁶⁷ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

¹⁰⁶⁸ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Survival Rate to Grade 5. Total*, accessed December 18, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

¹⁰⁶⁹ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, accessed October 20, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/newratframeE.htm>.

¹⁰⁷⁰ Ibid.

¹⁰⁷¹ ILO-IPEC, *IPEC Action Against Child Labour; Highlights 2006*, Geneva, October 2006; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ipcc/prod/eng/20070228_Implementationreport_en_Web.pdf.

¹⁰⁷² UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

¹⁰⁷³ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Comoros," Section 6d.

¹⁰⁷⁴ Ibid., Sections 5 and 6d. See also UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Summary Record of the 666th Meeting: Comoros*, CDC/C/SR.666, Geneva, June 2001, Para. 3. See also ILO Committee of Experts, *Direct Request*,

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum age for employment at 15.¹⁰⁷⁷ Hazardous work, such as that involving explosives or dangerous building sites, is prohibited to children. Inspectors must notify a judge of child labor law violations.¹⁰⁷⁸

Unmarried children under 18 are considered minors; the law protects them from sexual exploitation. Child prostitution and pornography are illegal.¹⁰⁷⁹ Punishments for involvement with the prostitution of a minor range from 2 to 5 years of imprisonment and fines; penalties are doubled in cases of reoccurrence within 10 years. These penalties also apply if the crime was committed in a different country.¹⁰⁸⁰ A juvenile court can impose protective measures for persons under 21 years who engage in prostitution.¹⁰⁸¹ The law prohibits forced and bonded labor except in instances of obligatory military service, work that is considered a civic duty to the community, and work that is required in times of accidents, fires, and calamities.¹⁰⁸² The law does not contain penalties specific to forced labor by children.¹⁰⁸³ According to the U.S. Department of State, the government does not actively enforce child labor laws or consistently enforce minimum age requirements for employment.¹⁰⁸⁴

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

Research has not identified any policies or programs by the Government of Comoros to address exploitive child labor.

Minimum Age (Non-Industrial Employment), 1932 (No. 33) Comoros (ratification: 1978), [online] [cited October 19, 2006]; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/newcountryframeE.htm>.

¹⁰⁷⁵ UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Consideration of Reports Submitted by States Parties Under Article 44 of the Convention: Concluding Observations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child, Comoros, CRC/C/15/Add.141*, October 2000, Para. 39. See also UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Summary Record*, para. 3 and 39.

¹⁰⁷⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Comoros," Section 6d.

¹⁰⁷⁷ *Ibid.*

¹⁰⁷⁸ Melchiorre, *At What Age?*, 53.

¹⁰⁷⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Comoros," Section 5.

¹⁰⁸⁰ The Protection Project, *Criminal Code of Comoros*, [previously online] [cited May 19, 2004], Articles 322, 323, and 324; available from <http://www.protectionproject.org> [hard copy on file].

¹⁰⁸¹ *Ibid.*, Article 327.

¹⁰⁸² Government of Comoros, *Code du Travail*, Loi No. 84 -018/PR portant Code du Travail, (1984); available from <http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/docs/WEBTEXT/1515/64795/F84COM01.htm>.

¹⁰⁸³ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Comoros," Section 6c.

¹⁰⁸⁴ *Ibid.*, Section 6d.

Congo, Democratic Republic of the

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Children work in the informal sector and in subsistence agriculture, which constitute the largest parts of the economy.¹⁰⁹⁴ Some parents make their children hunt, fish, engage in prostitution, or beg in the streets to support their families instead of attending school.¹⁰⁹⁵ Children have been used as forced laborers in the mining of natural resources such as gold, coltan, and copper.¹⁰⁹⁶ In the Katanga province, according to Global Witness, children dig holes, wash, sift, and transport to pay school fees and support their families.¹⁰⁹⁷

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working:	39.8% ¹⁰⁸⁵
Minimum age for admission to work:	15 ¹⁰⁸⁶
Age to which education is compulsory:	Not compulsory ¹⁰⁸⁷
Free public education:	No ^{1088*}
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2003:	62% ¹⁰⁸⁹
Net primary enrollment rate in 2002:	Unavailable
Percent of children 10-14 attending school:	65% ¹⁰⁹⁰
Percentage of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	Unavailable
Ratified Convention 138:	06/20/2001 ¹⁰⁹¹
Ratified Convention 182:	06/20/2001 ¹⁰⁹²
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Yes; associated ¹⁰⁹³
*Must pay for school supplies and related materials.	

¹⁰⁸⁵ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, October 7, 2005.

¹⁰⁸⁶ Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, *Loi no. 015/2002 du 16 Octobre 2002 portant Code du Travail*, Article 133; available from <http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/docs/SERIAL/62645/52447/F1638018233/COD-62645.pdf>. See also U.S. Department of State, "Democratic Republic of the Congo," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 6d; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78728.htm>.

¹⁰⁸⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: DRC," Section 6d.

¹⁰⁸⁸ *Ibid.*, Section 5.

¹⁰⁸⁹ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total* accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

¹⁰⁹⁰ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

¹⁰⁹¹ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*; accessed September 25, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/docs/declAFpr.htm>.

¹⁰⁹² *Ibid.*

¹⁰⁹³ ILO-IPEC, *IPEC Action Against Child Labour-Highlights 2006*, Geneva, October, 2006; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ipcc/prod/eng/20061019_Implementationreport_eng_Web.pdf.

¹⁰⁹⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Congo, Democratic Republic of the," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2005*, Washington, DC, March 8, 2006, Section 6d; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2005/61563.htm>.

¹⁰⁹⁵ *Ibid.*

¹⁰⁹⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: DRC," Section 6d. See also Watchlist on Children and Armed Conflict, *Struggling to Survive: Children in Armed Conflict in the Democratic Republic of the Congo*, New York,

Children continue to be involved with armed groups outside of the government's control in the eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo. Children associated with these groups are forced to work as combatants, laborers, and sex slaves. Girls in particular are compelled to provide sexual services and domestic labor for extended periods of time.¹⁰⁹⁸

Children are trafficked within the Democratic Republic of the Congo for forced labor and sexual exploitation.¹⁰⁹⁹ Most trafficking occurs within the eastern provinces of the country, where government control is weak and armed groups continue to abduct and forcibly recruit children.¹¹⁰⁰

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum age for employment at 15 years.¹¹⁰¹ Children between 15 and 18 may be employed with the permission of a parent or guardian. Children under 16, however, may work no more than 4 hours per day.¹¹⁰² The law defines and prohibits the worst forms of child labor under penalty of imprisonment for a maximum of 6 months and a fine.¹¹⁰³ The law bans forced or bonded labor,¹¹⁰⁴ the recruitment of anyone under 18 into the armed forces, and the use of children in hostilities.¹¹⁰⁵ The law also makes illegal the use of children as a means for trafficking drugs or engaging in other illicit activities such as prostitution or the production of pornographic materials.¹¹⁰⁶ According to the U.S. Department of State, the enforcement of child labor laws, particularly in the mining sector, is inadequate.¹¹⁰⁷

April 2006, p 6; available from http://www.watchlist.org/reports/dr_congo.report.20060426.pdf. See also Global Witness, *Digging in Corruption*, Washington DC, July 2006, p 10 and 32; available from http://www.globalwitness.org/media_library_detail.php/154/en/digging_in_corruption. See also Human Rights Watch, *DR Congo: Army Abducts Civilians for Forced Labor*, New York, 2006; available from <http://hrw.org/english/docs/2006/10/13/congo14387.htm>.

¹⁰⁹⁷ Global Witness, *Digging in Corruption*, p 32-33.

¹⁰⁹⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: DRC," Section 5. See also Human Rights Watch, *Democratic Republic of Congo: Briefing to the 60th Session of the UN Commission on Human Rights*, [online] 2004 [cited October 20, 2006]; available from <http://hrw.org/english/docs/2004/01/29/congo7128.htm>. See also Watchlist on Children and Armed Conflict, *Struggling to Survive*, p 6.

¹⁰⁹⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Democratic Republic of the Congo (Tier 2 Watch List)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/>. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: DRC," Section 5.

¹¹⁰⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Democratic Republic of the Congo". See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: DRC," section 5.

¹¹⁰¹ *Code du Travail*, Article 133.

¹¹⁰² U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: DRC," section 6d.

¹¹⁰³ Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, *Public Comments based on response to Federal Register Notice*, Kinshasa, January 7, 2005.

¹¹⁰⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: DRC," Section 6c.

¹¹⁰⁵ Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs, public comments based on response Federal Register Notice, Kinshasa, January 7, 2005. See also Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, November 17, 2004; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=801.

¹¹⁰⁶ Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, *Public Comments, January 7, 2005*, Section 3a-3d.

¹¹⁰⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: DRC," Section 6d. See also U.S. Embassy- Kinshasa, *reporting*, December 15, 2006, Paras 3 and 4.

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The government is implementing a national plan for Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration (DDR) of combatants, including children, supported by the World Bank.¹¹⁰⁸ World Bank programs include projects directed specifically at child soldiers. These projects are: the Support for the Reunification and Reintegration of Former Child Soldiers in the DRC, implemented by Save the Children; and Situation Assessment and Pilot Projects for Demobilization and Reintegration of Child Soldiers in Orientale, Northern Katanga and Maniema Provinces, implemented by the International Rescue Committee the International Foundation for Education and Self-Help (IFESH), and CARE International.¹¹⁰⁹ The government continues to participate in a global USD 7 million project implemented by ILO-IPEC to prevent the involvement of children in armed conflict and support the rehabilitation of former child soldiers.¹¹¹⁰ This project targets a total of 5,264 children for withdrawal and 4,250 children for prevention from involvement with armed groups in seven countries, including the DRC.¹¹¹¹

In 2006, the government created a national committee to combat the worst forms of child labor and finalized a paper on poverty reduction strategy that highlights the problem of child labor.¹¹¹²

In partnership with an international organization, the Ministry of Women's and Family Affairs and Labor began to implement an action plan against sexual exploitation, and the government attended regional meetings on human trafficking and sought to coordinate with neighboring governments to address the problem of human trafficking in the region.¹¹¹³

¹¹⁰⁸ Multi-Country Demobilization and Reintegration Program, *National Program: Democratic Republic of Congo*, [online] [cited October 19, 2006]; available from http://www.mdrp.org/drc_main.htm. See also Government of the Democratic Republic of Congo, *Creation du Comite Interministeriel Charge de la Conception et de l'Orientation en Matiere de Desarmement, Demobilisation et Reinsertion*, Decret N. 03/041, (December 18, 2003).

¹¹⁰⁹ Government of the Democratic Republic of Congo, *Creation du Comite Interministeriel Charge de la Conception et de l'Orientation en Matiere de Desarmement, Demobilisation et Reinsertion*. See also Multi-Country Demobilization and Reintegration Program, *National Program: DRC*, p 4-8.

¹¹¹⁰ ILO-IPEC, *Prevention and Reintegration of Children Involved in Armed Conflicts: An Inter-Regional Programme*, project document, Geneva, September 17, 2003, p 5-6.

¹¹¹¹ ILO-IPEC, *Prevention and Reintegration of Children Involved in Armed Conflicts: An Inter-Regional Programme: DRC Country Annex*, project document, Geneva, 2003, p 1.

¹¹¹² ILO-IPEC, *Prevention and Reintegration of Children Involved in Armed Conflict: an Inter Regional Program*, technical progress report, Geneva, September, 2006, Pages 3-4.

¹¹¹³ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2005: DRC," Section 5.

Congo, Republic of

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Children work with their families on farms or in informal business activities.¹¹²² In Brazzaville and other urban centers, there are significant numbers of street children, primarily from the neighboring Democratic Republic of the Congo, who engage in street vending and begging. There were isolated cases of children involved in commercial sexual exploitation.¹¹²³

There are unconfirmed accounts of trafficking into the Republic of Congo of “minor relatives” of immigrants from West Africa.¹¹²⁴ Children from West Africa reportedly work as domestic servants, fishermen, shop workers, and street sellers.¹¹²⁵

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working:	Unavailable
Minimum age for admission to work:	16 ¹¹¹⁴
Age to which education is compulsory:	16 ¹¹¹⁵
Free public education:	Yes ^{1116*}
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:	89% ¹¹¹⁷
Net primary enrollment rate:	Unavailable
Percent of children 5-14 attending school:	Unavailable
As of 2002, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	66% ¹¹¹⁸
Ratified Convention 138:	11/26/1999 ¹¹¹⁹
Ratified Convention 182:	8/23/2002 ¹¹²⁰
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Yes, associated ¹¹²¹
*Must pay for school supplies and related items.	

¹¹¹⁴ Government of the Republic of Congo, *Loi N° 45-75, Code du travail de la République populaire du Congo*, (1975), Articles 11, 116; available from <http://www.droit-afrique.com/images/textes/Congo/Congo%20-%20Code%20du%20travail.pdf>.

¹¹¹⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Republic of Congo," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78729.htm>.

¹¹¹⁶ *Ibid.*

¹¹¹⁷ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

¹¹¹⁸ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Survival Rate to Grade 5. Total*, accessed December 18, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

¹¹¹⁹ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, accessed October 23, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/newratframeE.htm>.

¹¹²⁰ *Ibid.*

¹¹²¹ ILO-IPEC, *IPEC Action Against Child Labour-Highlights 2006*, Geneva, October 2006; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ipcc/prod/eng/20061019_Implementationreport_eng_Web.pdf.

¹¹²² U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Congo," Section 6d.

¹¹²³ *Ibid.*, Sections 5, 6d. See also Integrated Regional Information Networks, "Congo: Street Children a Growing Problem in Brazzaville", IRINnews.org, [online], April 21, 2005 [cited October 16, 2006]; available from http://www.irinnews.org/report.asp?ReportID=46742&SelectRegion=Great_Lakes&SelectCountry.

¹¹²⁴ U.S. Embassy- Brazzaville, *reporting*, February 26, 2007. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Congo."

¹¹²⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Congo," Section 5.

Although reports of violence in the Pool region have continued since the country's civil conflict formally ended in 2003, it is unclear whether children have continued to be involved as child soldiers in the region.¹¹²⁶

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum age for employment, including apprenticeships, at 16 years. Exceptions may be permitted by the Ministry of Education after an inspection of the place of employment.¹¹²⁷ The law prohibits forced or compulsory labor; however, there are exceptions for military service and other civic duties.¹¹²⁸ The minimum age of enlistment for service in the armed forces in the Republic of Congo is 18 years.¹¹²⁹

The law criminalizes procuring a person for the purpose of prostitution. Furthermore, it establishes a penalty of 10 years of imprisonment if such an act is committed with respect to a minor, defined as a person less than 15 years of age.¹¹³⁰ While the law does not specifically prohibit trafficking in persons, traffickers can be prosecuted for child abuse, forced labor, illegal immigration, prostitution, rape, extortion, and slavery under existing laws.¹¹³¹ There were no reports that the government prosecuted any traffickers under these laws.¹¹³²

The Ministry of Labor is responsible for enforcing child labor laws and monitors businesses in the formal sector; however, because of resource constraints, in total only two inspection trips were made during the year.¹¹³³ According to the U.S. Department of State, child labor continues to occur in the informal sector and in rural areas that lack effective government oversight.¹¹³⁴

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

In response to the recruitment of child soldiers during the civil conflict that formally ended in 2003, the Government of the Republic of Congo participated in a global USD 7 million USDOL-funded project implemented by ILO-IPEC to prevent the involvement of children in

¹¹²⁶ ILO-IPEC, *Prevention and Reintegration of Children Involved in Armed Conflict: An Inter-Regional Programme*, technical progress report, Geneva, September 2006, 2. See also Integrated Regional Information Networks, "Congo: Interview with Madeleine Yila Bompoto, Coordinator of Efforts to Reintegrate Ex-Child Soldiers", IRINnews.org, [online], March 31, 2006 [cited October 16, 2006]; available from http://www.irinnews.org/report.asp?reportid=52536&selectregion=great_lakes.

¹¹²⁷ Government of the Republic of Congo, *Loi no 45-75, Code du travail*, Sections 11 and 116.

¹¹²⁸ *Ibid.*, Article 4.

¹¹²⁹ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Republic of Congo," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004* London, 2004; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=768.

¹¹³⁰ Government of the Republic of Congo, *Penal Code*, Articles 222-4, and 225-7, [previously online]; available from <http://www.protectionproject.org/main1.htm> [hard copy on file].

¹¹³¹ U.S. Embassy- Brazzaville, *reporting, February 26, 2007*. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports-2006: Congo."

¹¹³² U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Congo," Section 6d.

¹¹³³ *Ibid.*

¹¹³⁴ *Ibid.*, Section 6d.

armed conflict and support the rehabilitation of former child soldiers.¹¹³⁵ The project targets a total of 5,264 children for withdrawal and 4,250 children for prevention from involvement with armed groups in seven countries, including the Republic of Congo.¹¹³⁶

The Government's National Program for Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration (PNDDR) became effective in August 2006.¹¹³⁷ The program includes a component to offer financial support and technical training to former child soldiers.¹¹³⁸

¹¹³⁵ ILO-IPEC, *Prevention and Reintegration of Children Involved in Armed Conflict: An Inter-Regional Programme*, project document, Geneva, September 17, 2003, 1.

¹¹³⁶ *Ibid.*, 6.

¹¹³⁷ ILO-IPEC, *Children Involved in Armed Conflict: September 2006, technical progress report*, 2.

¹¹³⁸ World Bank, *Technical Annex for a Program of USD 17 Million from the MDRP Multi-Donor Trust Fund to the Republic of Congo for an Emergency Reintegration Program*, World Bank, December 14, 2005, 7, 18-9; available from http://www.mdrp.org/PDFs/Country_PDFs/ROC-MDRP-TechAnnex_0506.pdf. See also Integrated Regional Information Networks, "Congo: Interview with Madeleine Yila Bompoto, coordinator of efforts to reintegrate ex-child soldiers".

Costa Rica

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2002 in Costa Rica, the majority of working children were found in the agricultural sector (57.0 percent), followed by services (30.9 percent), manufacturing (7.3 percent), and other sectors (4.8 percent).¹¹⁴⁹ The rate of child work is higher in rural than in urban areas.¹¹⁵⁰ In rural areas, children work principally in agriculture, forestry, hunting, and trade and repair activities. In urban areas, children work mainly in trade and repair activities, construction and manufacturing.¹¹⁵¹

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 2002:	5.9% ¹¹³⁹
Minimum age for admission to work:	15 ¹¹⁴⁰
Age to which education is compulsory:	15 ¹¹⁴¹
Free public education:	Yes ¹¹⁴²
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:	112% ¹¹⁴³
Net primary enrollment rate:	Unavailable
Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 2002:	90.1% ¹¹⁴⁴
As of 2003, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	92% ¹¹⁴⁵
Ratified Convention 138:	6/11/1976 ¹¹⁴⁶
Ratified Convention 182:	9/10/2001 ¹¹⁴⁷
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Yes ¹¹⁴⁸

According to the National Institute for Children (PANI), commercial sexual exploitation of children is a problem in Costa Rica, with an unknown but significant number of children

¹¹³⁹ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, October 7, 2005.

¹¹⁴⁰ *Código de la Niñez y la Adolescencia*, (1998), Article 78.

¹¹⁴¹ U.S. Department of State, "Costa Rica," in *Country Report on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/>.

¹¹⁴² *Ibid.*

¹¹⁴³ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

¹¹⁴⁴ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

¹¹⁴⁵ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Survival Rate to Grade 5. Total*, accessed December 18, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

¹¹⁴⁶ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, accessed October 18, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/cgi-lex/ratifice.pl?Costa+Rica>.

¹¹⁴⁷ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, accessed October 18, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/cgi-lex/ratifice.pl?Costa+Rica>.

¹¹⁴⁸ ILO, *IPEC Action Against Child Labor- Highlights 2006*, [online] February, 2007 [cited March 29 2007]; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ippec/prod/eng/20070228_Implementationreport_en_Web.pdf.

¹¹⁴⁹ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

¹¹⁵⁰ Instituto Nacional de Estadística y Censo, Ministerio de Trabajo y Seguro Social, and ILO-IPEC, *National Report on the Results of the Child and Adolescent Labour Survey in Costa Rica*, San José, 2003, 26.

¹¹⁵¹ *Ibid.*, 32.

involved.¹¹⁵² Children in San José, Limón, and Puntarenas are at high risk. From January to June 2006, minors in 163 sexual exploitation cases were assisted.¹¹⁵³ Child sex tourism is a serious problem, with children trafficked within the country for sexual exploitation and forced labor.¹¹⁵⁴ Girls are trafficked into Costa Rica from other countries for commercial sexual exploitation.¹¹⁵⁵

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum age for employment at 15 years and prohibits minors under 18 years from working at night; in mines, bars, and businesses that sell alcohol; in unsafe and unhealthy places; in activities where they are responsible for their own safety or the safety of other minors; and where they are required to work with dangerous equipment, contaminated substances, or excessive noise.¹¹⁵⁶ However, adolescents under 18 years are prohibited from working for more than 6 hours a day or 36 hours a week.¹¹⁵⁷ Children from 12 to 15 may work up to 5 hours per day or 30 hours per week. Children 12 to 18 years old may work longer hours in agriculture and ranching, within the limitations established for the general workday schedules.¹¹⁵⁸ Violations of minimum age and child labor standards are punishable by fines.¹¹⁵⁹

Forced labor is prohibited under the law.¹¹⁶⁰ Costa Rica does not have armed forces, and the minimum age for recruitment to the police force is 18 years.¹¹⁶¹ The penalty for paid sexual relations with a minor under age 12 is 4 to 10 years in prison; 3 to 8 years if the victim is 12 to 15 years; and 2 to 6 years if the victim is 15 to 18 years.¹¹⁶² The penalty for procuring a minor under 18 for prostitution or for keeping the minor in prostitution or in sexual slavery is 4 to 10 years in prison. The penalty for pimping a minor under age 12 is 4 to 10 years in prison; and 3 to 9 years if the victim is between 12 and 18.¹¹⁶³ The penalty for promoting, facilitating or aiding the trafficking of minors for commercial sexual exploitation or slave labor is 4 to 10 years in prison.¹¹⁶⁴

¹¹⁵² U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Costa Rica," Section 5.

¹¹⁵³ Ibid.

¹¹⁵⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Costa Rica (Tier 2 Watch List)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/65988.htm>.

¹¹⁵⁵ Ibid.

¹¹⁵⁶ Government of Costa Rica, *Código de la Niñez y la Adolescencia*, 1998, Articles 2, 92, and 94. See also, Government of Costa Rica, *Código de Trabajo*, Articles 88 and 89.

¹¹⁵⁷ Government of Costa Rica, *Código de la Niñez y la Adolescencia*, 1998, Article 95.

¹¹⁵⁸ Government of Costa Rica, *Código de Trabajo*, Article 89.

¹¹⁵⁹ Government of Costa Rica, *Código de la Niñez y la Adolescencia*, 1998, Article 101.

¹¹⁶⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Costa Rica," Section 6c.

¹¹⁶¹ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Costa Rica," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, London, 2004; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=821.

¹¹⁶² UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Consideration of Reports Submitted by States Parties*, CRC/C/OPSC/CRI/1, prepared by Government of Costa Rica, pursuant to Article 12 (1) of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography: Costa Rica, December 12, 2005.

¹¹⁶³ Ibid.

¹¹⁶⁴ Ibid.

The Inspections Directorate of the Ministry of Labor is responsible for investigating child labor violations and enforcing child labor laws.¹¹⁶⁵ According to the U.S. Department of State, Inspections Directorate officials acknowledge that their effectiveness at enforcing child labor laws is severely limited by lack of resources.¹¹⁶⁶

PANI and the Ministry of Labor carry out investigations and provide protection to child victims of sexual exploitation.¹¹⁶⁷ In particular, the Office of the Special Prosecutor for Domestic Violence and Sexual Crimes for the San Jose Area enforces prohibitions against the sexual exploitation of children.¹¹⁶⁸ As many as seven government agencies are responsible for combating trafficking and commercial exploitation of children, with many investigations started by the various agencies.¹¹⁶⁹ However, according to the U.S. Department of State, witness intimidation, lack of resources and poor coordination among the agencies inhibit enforcement efforts.¹¹⁷⁰ An Inter-Ministerial Group on Trafficking carries out efforts to raise awareness and promote law enforcement.¹¹⁷¹

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The National Agenda for Children and Adolescents, 2000-2010, includes strategies to prevent and eliminate the worst forms of child labor.¹¹⁷² In May 2006, the government began economic subsidies for poor adolescents in the formal and non-formal education system to reduce child labor.¹¹⁷³ In addition, the Government of Costa Rica has launched the Second National Action Plan for the Prevention and Eradication of Child Labor and Special Protection of Adolescent Workers 2005-2010.¹¹⁷⁴ The government also had a Master Plan on Children and Adolescents, which included a plan to combat commercial sexual exploitation of children.¹¹⁷⁵

¹¹⁶⁵ Ministerio de Trabajo y Seguridad Social, *Poder Ejecutivo Directriz: Manual de Procedimientos de la Dirección Nacional de Inspección*, San José, 2-3; available from <http://www.ministrabajo.go.cr/Informacion%20General/Cartera%20de%20servicios/Direccion%20Nacional%20de%20Inspeccion.htm#Atención%20de%20trabajadores%20menores%20de%20edad>. See also U.S. Embassy- San Jose, *reporting*, September 6, 2005.

¹¹⁶⁶ U.S. Embassy- San Jose, *reporting*, September 6, 2005.

¹¹⁶⁷ Government of Costa Rica, *Report and Comments on Sexual Exploitation of Children in Costa Rica*, submitted in response to U.S. Department of Labor Federal Register Notice (July 14, 2004) "Request for Information on Efforts by Certain Countries to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor", Embassy of Costa Rica in the United States, August 23, 2004.

¹¹⁶⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Costa Rica," Section 5.

¹¹⁶⁹ *Ibid.*

¹¹⁷⁰ *Ibid.*

¹¹⁷¹ *Ibid.*

¹¹⁷² Government of Costa Rica, *Agenda Nacional para la Niñez y la Adolescencia: Metas y Compromisos, 2000-2010*, San José, September 2000, 11, 21.

¹¹⁷³ ILO-IPEC, *Stop the Exploitation. Contribution to the Prevention and Elimination of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children in Central America, Panama, and the Dominican Republic*, technical progress report, San José, September 30, 2006, 15.

¹¹⁷⁴ Government of Costa Rica, *Segundo Plan Nacional de Acción para la Prevención, Erradicación del Trabajo Infantil y Para la Protección Especial de las Personas Adolescentes Trabajadoras, Costa Rica, 2005-2010*, San José, 2005; available from http://www.oit.org.pe/ippec/documentos/plan_eti_costa_rica.pdf.

¹¹⁷⁵ Government of Costa Rica, *Plan Maestro Niñez y Adolescencia, 2002-2006*, San José, 2002.

The Government of Costa Rica continues to participate in a USD 8.8 million regional project funded by USDOL and implemented by ILO-IPEC aimed at combating commercial sexual exploitation of children.¹¹⁷⁶ The project aims to withdraw 713 children and prevent 657 children from commercial sexual exploitation in the region.¹¹⁷⁷ The Government of Costa Rica is also participating in a USD 5.5 million USDOL-funded regional Child Labor Education Initiative Program implemented by CARE, which seeks to strengthen government and civil society's capacity to combat child labor through education.¹¹⁷⁸ This project seeks to withdraw or prevent 190 children from entering exploitive labor.¹¹⁷⁹ A USDOL-funded ILO-IPEC-implemented USD 3 million regional project to combat child labor in commercial agriculture ended in 2006.¹¹⁸⁰ The project withdrew 2,309 children and prevented 2,693 children from the region from exploitive labor.¹¹⁸¹

¹¹⁷⁶ ILO-IPEC, *Contribution to the Prevention and Elimination of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children in Central America, Panama and the Dominican Republic*, project document, RLA/02/P51/USA, 2002, 2005.

¹¹⁷⁷ *Ibid.*

¹¹⁷⁸ CARE USA, *APRENDO Project. Combating Exploitive Child Labor Through Education in Central America (Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua) and the Dominican Republic*, project document, 2004.

¹¹⁷⁹ CARE USA, *Technical Progress Report: Combating Child Labor Through Education in Central America and the Dominican Republic "Primero Aprendo"*, September 30, 2006, 10.

¹¹⁸⁰ ILO-IPEC, *Prevention and Progressive Elimination of Child Labour in Agriculture in Central America, Panama and the Dominican Republic (Phase II)*, project document, September 30, 2003.

¹¹⁸¹ ILO-IPEC, *ILO-IPEC GPRA Report: Number of Children Withdrawn/Prevented. Project Funded from FY2003*, Geneva, 2006.

Côte d'Ivoire

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2002, approximately 14.4 percent of boys and 15.7 percent of girls ages 5 to 14 were working in Côte d'Ivoire.¹¹⁹³ In Côte d'Ivoire, many children work in agriculture on family farms. Children also work in the informal sector, including as street vendors, shoeshiners, errand runners, car washers and watchers, and as food sellers in street restaurants. They also work in small workshops and in family-

operated gold and diamond mines. Ivorian girls as young as 9 years old work as domestic servants, and some are subject to mistreatment including sexual abuse.¹¹⁹⁴

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 2002:	15% ¹¹⁸²
Minimum age of work:	14 ¹¹⁸³
Age to which education is compulsory:	Not compulsory ¹¹⁸⁴
Free public education:	Yes ¹¹⁸⁵ *
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2003:	72% ¹¹⁸⁶
Net primary enrollment rate in 2002:	56% ¹¹⁸⁷
Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 2002:	55.9% ¹¹⁸⁸
As of 2000, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	88% ¹¹⁸⁹
Ratified Convention 138:	2/7/2003 ¹¹⁹⁰
Ratified Convention 182:	2/7/2003 ¹¹⁹¹
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Yes ¹¹⁹²

Children work in the cocoa sector in Côte d'Ivoire. According to a study carried out by the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA) in 2002, a majority of children work alongside their families on farms owned either by immediate or extended relatives.¹¹⁹⁵ Some of

¹¹⁸² UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank Surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, March 1, 2007, Section 5.

¹¹⁸³ Government of Côte d'Ivoire, *Code du travail*, 1995, no. 95/15, Article 23.8; available from <http://natlex.ilo.org/txt/F95CIV01.htm>.

¹¹⁸⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Côte d'Ivoire," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006* Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78730.htm>.

¹¹⁸⁵ Ibid.

¹¹⁸⁶ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank Surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

¹¹⁸⁷ Ibid.

¹¹⁸⁸ Ibid.

¹¹⁸⁹ Ibid.

¹¹⁹⁰ ILO, *Côte d'Ivoire Ratified 34 Instrument(s)*, accessed October 19, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/cgi-lex/ratifce.pl?Côte+d+Ivoire>.

¹¹⁹¹ Ibid.

¹¹⁹² ILO-IPEC, *IPEC Action Against Child Labour- Highlights 2006*, Geneva, October 2006; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ipcc/prod/eng/20070228_Implementationreport_en_Web.pdf.

¹¹⁹³ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank Surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

¹¹⁹⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Côte d'Ivoire," Sections 5 and 6d.

¹¹⁹⁵ International Institute of Tropical Agriculture, *Child Labor in the Cocoa Sector of West Africa: A Synthesis of Findings in Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, and Nigeria*, August 2002, 16. See also Government of Côte d'Ivoire,

the working children come from outside the country's cocoa zone, either from other regions of Côte d'Ivoire or from neighboring countries such as Burkina Faso.¹¹⁹⁶ There are also credible reports of trafficked children from Burkina Faso, Mali, and Togo working on Ivorian cocoa and coffee farms.¹¹⁹⁷ According to the IITA study, approximately one-third of children who live in cocoa-producing households do not attend school.¹¹⁹⁸ Children working on cocoa farms are at risk of being involved in hazardous tasks, such as carrying heavy loads, spraying pesticides without protection, using machetes to clear undergrowth, and burning vegetation.¹¹⁹⁹ According to a 2005 Government of Côte d'Ivoire survey conducted in the district of Oumé, some 92 percent of children working on cocoa farms carry heavy loads, including children as young as 5 years.¹²⁰⁰

Pro-government militia and rebel groups recruit children for use in armed conflict, sometimes on a forced basis.¹²⁰¹

Côte d'Ivoire is a source and destination country for trafficked children.¹²⁰² Children are trafficked into the country from Mali, Burkina Faso, Ghana, Togo, Benin, and Mauritania to work as domestic servants, farm laborers, fishermen, and for sexual exploitation.¹²⁰³ In particular, trafficked boys from Ghana, Mali, and Burkina Faso work on cocoa, coffee, pineapple, and rubber plantations. Guinean boys are trafficked to work in the mining sector, while boys trafficked from Togo work in construction and those from Benin in carpentry.¹²⁰⁴ Ivorian girls are trafficked to Gabon to work as domestic servants; girls from Ghana, Togo, and Benin are trafficked to Côte d'Ivoire to work as domestic servants and street vendors and from Nigeria, China, Ukraine, and the Philippines to work as waitresses and prostitutes in street-

Child Labor Monitoring System in the Cocoa Sector in Côte d'Ivoire Pilot Project (CLMS PP), Abidjan, December 2005, 23-24.

¹¹⁹⁶ International Institute of Tropical Agriculture, *Child Labor in the Cocoa Sector of West Africa: A Synthesis of Findings*, 12.

¹¹⁹⁷ German Agency for Technical Cooperation, *La traite et les pires formes de travail des enfants dans les plantations de café-cacao en Côte d'Ivoire: La situation dans les départements Abengourou, Oumé, et Soubré* (Abidjan: 2005). See also International Cocoa Initiative official, Meeting with USDOL official, October 4, 2006.

¹¹⁹⁸ International Institute of Tropical Agriculture, *Summary of Findings from the Child Labor Surveys in the Cocoa Sector of West Africa: Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, and Nigeria*, IITA, July 2002. See also Government of Côte d'Ivoire, *CLMS Pilot Project*, 22.

¹¹⁹⁹ International Institute of Tropical Agriculture, *Summary of Findings from the Child Labor Surveys in the Cocoa Sector of West Africa*. See also Government of Côte d'Ivoire, *CLMS Pilot Project*, 35. See also USAID, *USAID and Labor Department Release Data from Collaborative Survey on Child Labor on Cocoa Farms in West Africa: W. African Governments and Global Chocolate Industry Working Jointly with U.S. to Combat Problem*, press release, Washington, DC, July 26, 2002; available from http://www.usaid.gov/press/releases/2002/pr020726_2.html.

¹²⁰⁰ Government of Côte d'Ivoire, *CLMS Pilot Project*, 25 and 35.

¹²⁰¹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Côte d'Ivoire," Sections 5 and 6d. See also United Nations Economic and Social Council, *Rights of the Child: Annual Report of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, Olara Otunnu*, E/CN.4/2004/70, January 28, 2004, 11.

¹²⁰² U.S. Embassy- Abidjan, reporting, August 23, 2004. See also U.S. Department of State, "Côte d'Ivoire (Tier 2)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/65988.htm>.

¹²⁰³ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Côte d'Ivoire," Section 5. See also U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Côte d'Ivoire ". See also German Agency for Technical Cooperation, *La traite et les pires formes de travail des enfants dans les plantations de café-cacao en Côte d'Ivoire*, 28. See also U.S. Embassy- Abidjan.

¹²⁰⁴ U.S. Embassy- Abidjan.

side restaurants. Girls are trafficked domestically to work as domestic servants, waitresses, and in prostitution.¹²⁰⁵ Refugee and displaced children in the refugee zone in western Côte d'Ivoire are trafficked to work as domestic servants, in mines, and on palm oil plantations.¹²⁰⁶

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum age for employment at 14 years, including for apprenticeships.¹²⁰⁷ Ivorian law requires parents or legal guardians to sign employment contracts on behalf of children under 16 years and to serve as witnesses to contracts signed by children between 16 and 18.¹²⁰⁸ Night work by children under 18 is prohibited, and all children are required to have at least 12 consecutive hours of rest between work shifts.¹²⁰⁹ The Labor Inspectorate can require children to take a medical exam to ensure that the work for which they are hired does not exceed their physical capacity.¹²¹⁰

Ivorian law prohibits forced or compulsory labor.¹²¹¹ In 2005, the government adopted a decree defining hazardous work that is forbidden for children under 18 years. The decree outlines prohibited work in the categories of agriculture, forestry, mining, commerce and the urban informal sector, handicrafts, and transport.¹²¹² The minimum age for both voluntary and compulsory recruitment into the military is 18 years.¹²¹³ Persons convicted of procuring a prostitute under 21 may be imprisoned for 2 to 10 years and charged a fine.¹²¹⁴

The constitution and law do not specifically prohibit trafficking in persons.¹²¹⁵ However, traffickers may be prosecuted for kidnapping, mistreating, or torturing children with a punishment of 1 to 5 years of imprisonment and a fine. Alienation of a person's freedom is punishable with 5 to 10 years of imprisonment, with the maximum penalty enforced if the victim is under 15.¹²¹⁶ Individuals who receive or leave a person as financial security face a fine and a penalty of 6 months to 3 years in prison, which automatically increases to 5 years when the victim is under 15 years. If labor is imposed on a person, the penalty is 1 to 5 years in prison and a fine.¹²¹⁷

¹²⁰⁵ Ibid.

¹²⁰⁶ Ibid. See also U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Côte d'Ivoire".

¹²⁰⁷ Government of Côte d'Ivoire, *Code du travail*, 1995, Article 23.8.

¹²⁰⁸ UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Initial Reports of States Parties Due in 1993, Addendum*, CRC/C/8/Add.41, prepared by Government of Côte d'Ivoire, pursuant to Article 44 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, 2000, para. 85.

¹²⁰⁹ Government of Côte d'Ivoire, *Code du travail*, 1995, Articles 22.2 and 22.3

¹²¹⁰ Ibid., Article 23.9.

¹²¹¹ Ibid., Article 3.

¹²¹² Government of Côte d'Ivoire, *Arrêté n° 2250 portant détermination de la liste des travaux dangereux interdits aux enfants de moins de dix huit (18) ans*, (March 14, 2005).

¹²¹³ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers. "Côte d'Ivoire", *In Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, London, 2004; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=771.

¹²¹⁴ U.S. Embassy- Abidjan.

¹²¹⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Côte d'Ivoire," Section 5.

¹²¹⁶ U.S. Embassy- Abidjan.

¹²¹⁷ Ibid.

The Ministry of Civil Service, Employment and Administrative Reform is the government agency responsible for enforcement of child labor laws.¹²¹⁸ Enforcement of child labor prohibitions is hindered by a lack of resources, weak institutions, and the lack of a regulatory and judicial framework.¹²¹⁹ In 2006, the Ministry of Security created a department of child trafficking and juvenile delinquency within the criminal police division to centralize all police activities related to children in the government-controlled areas of the country.¹²²⁰ The government rarely investigates trafficking cases and only prosecuted five cases in 2006.¹²²¹

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

In 2006, USDOL awarded a 3-year USD 4.3 million contract to Tulane University to oversee the efforts of the international cocoa industry and the Governments of Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana to eliminate the worst forms of child labor in the cocoa sector. The project will assess progress being made toward implementation of a cocoa certification system free of child labor, covering at least 50 percent of the cocoa-growing areas in the two countries, and the establishment of child labor monitoring and verification systems in the cocoa sector.¹²²² Between 2002 and 2006, Côte d'Ivoire participated in a USD 6 million, ILO-IPEC regional project funded by USDOL and the Cocoa Global Issues Group to combat hazardous and exploitive child labor in the cocoa sector. The project helped withdraw 6,154 children and prevent another 1,324 children from exploitive labor in Côte d'Ivoire through the provision of education or training opportunities.¹²²³ The Government of Côte d'Ivoire also is actively involved in a 6-year, USD 9.25 million regional USDOL-funded project implemented by ILO-IPEC to combat the trafficking of children for exploitive labor in West and Central Africa (LUTRENA). The project aims to withdraw and prevent 9,000 children from trafficking situations in the region.¹²²⁴ In 2006, the U.S. Department of State provided additional funding for Côte d'Ivoire under the LUTRENA project to strengthen the National Committee for Combating Trafficking and Child Exploitation.¹²²⁵ USAID and the international cocoa industry fund the Sustainable Tree Crops Program in Côte d'Ivoire, a public-private partnership that promotes sustainable tree crop systems, including coffee, cocoa, and cashews, and contains a component to prevent and eliminate the worst forms of child labor on farms.¹²²⁶ GTZ is also partnering with the

¹²¹⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Côte d'Ivoire," Section 6d.

¹²¹⁹ U.S. Embassy- Abidjan.

¹²²⁰ Ibid.

¹²²¹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Côte d'Ivoire," Section 5. See also U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Côte d'Ivoire".

¹²²² U.S. Department of Labor, *U.S. Labor Department Funds Project to Evaluate Effectiveness of Anti-Child-Labor Efforts in the Cocoa Industry*, press release, October 3, 2006.

¹²²³ International Child Labor Program U.S. Department of Labor, *West Africa Cocoa/Commercial Agriculture Program to Combat Hazardous and Exploitative Child Labor (WACAP)*, project summary, 2006. See also ILO-IPEC, *West Africa Cocoa/Commercial Agriculture Programme to Combat Hazardous and Exploitative Child Labour (WACAP) Final Technical Progress Report*, technical progress report, Geneva, June 2006, 40-41.

¹²²⁴ International Child Labor Program U.S. Department of Labor, *Combating Trafficking in Children for Labor Exploitation in West and Central Africa, Phases 1 & 2 (LUTRENA)*, project summary, 2006.

¹²²⁵ ILO-IPEC Geneva official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, November 16, 2006.

¹²²⁶ USAID, "Chocolate Companies Help West African Farmers Improve Harvest," *USAID Frontlines* (September, 2005); available from http://www.usaid.gov/press/frontlines/fl_sep05/pillars.htm. See also International

Government of Côte d'Ivoire to combat trafficking and the worst forms of child labor.¹²²⁷ UNICEF has demobilized and reintegrated 1,000 former child soldiers into society.¹²²⁸

In 2006, the government reinstated its Child Labor Task Force.¹²²⁹ The government is implementing a National Action Plan to Combat Child Labor and Trafficking, which contains strategies for providing education, shelter, and repatriation services to trafficking and child labor victims.¹²³⁰ The National Committee for the Combating Trafficking and Child Exploitation (NCFTCE), a joint Ministerial committee chaired by the Ministry of Family and Social Affairs, coordinates the government's anti-trafficking efforts and is implementing a child trafficking monitoring system.¹²³¹ Nine government ministries are involved in anti-trafficking efforts in Côte d'Ivoire, and, in 2006, many of these ministries created specific anti-trafficking units.¹²³²

The Ministry of Family and Social Affairs has conducted awareness-raising campaigns targeting children at risk of being trafficked and industries that employ child labor. The ministry has also provided school supplies to at-risk children to allow them to attend primary school.¹²³³ The government also provides a local NGO with a building, utilities, and staff for a shelter for trafficking victims; it also has given funding for reintegration services to trafficking victims.¹²³⁴

In July 2006, Côte d'Ivoire was 1 of 24 countries to adopt the Multilateral Cooperative Agreement to Combat Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, in West and Central Africa and the Joint Plan of Action against Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children in the West and Central African Regions.¹²³⁵ As part of the Multilateral Cooperative Agreement, the governments agreed to put into place the child trafficking monitoring system developed by the USDOL-funded ILO-IPEC LUTRENA project; to ensure that birth certificates and travel identity documents cannot easily be falsified or altered; to

Institute of Tropical Agriculture, *Sustainable Tree Crops Program*, [online] [cited October 19, 2006]; available from <http://www.treecrops.org/index.htm>.

¹²²⁷ Government of Côte d'Ivoire, *Les efforts de la Cote d'Ivoire en matiere de lutte contre les pires formes de travail des enfants*, submitted in response to U.S. Department of Labor Federal Register Notice (December 5, 2006) "Request for Information on Efforts by Certain Countries to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor", January 16, 2007. See also German Agency for Technical Cooperation, *Programs and projects in Côte d'Ivoire* [online] [cited April 7, 2007]; available from <http://www.gtz.de/en/weltweit/afrika/cote-d-ivoire/580.htm>. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Côte d'Ivoire," Section 5.

¹²²⁸ UNICEF, *At a Glance: Côte d'Ivoire*, [online] [cited October 20, 2006]; available from <http://www.unicef.org/infobycountry/cotedivoire.html>.

¹²²⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Côte d'Ivoire", U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Côte d'Ivoire."

¹²³⁰ U.S. Embassy- Abidjan, *reporting*, October 4, 2005. See also U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Côte d'Ivoire". See also Government of Côte d'Ivoire, *Les efforts de la Cote d'Ivoire en matiere de lutte contre les pires formes de travail des enfants*.

¹²³¹ U.S. Embassy- Abidjan.

¹²³² Ibid.

¹²³³ Ibid.

¹²³⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Côte d'Ivoire".

¹²³⁵ ILO-IPEC, *Combating the Trafficking of Children for Labour Exploitation in West and Central Africa (LUTRENA)*, technical progress report, Geneva, September 1, 2006. See also Catholic Relief Services official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, October 2, 2006.

provide assistance to each other in the investigation, arrest and prosecution of trafficking offenders; to protect, rehabilitate, and reintegrate trafficking victims; and to improve educational systems, vocational training and apprenticeships.¹²³⁶ Côte d'Ivoire is a signatory to a nine-member multilateral cooperative agreement to combat child trafficking in West Africa in 2005, and while the government cooperated with international investigations of trafficking in 2006, the government did not prosecute any traffickers during the year.¹²³⁷ On a bilateral level, the government cooperates with Malian authorities to combat child trafficking and to repatriate Malian children found in Côte d'Ivoire.¹²³⁸

The Ministry of National Education has opened primary mobile schools and community education centers in cocoa-growing communities to protect children from hazardous work.¹²³⁹ Through funding by the World Cocoa Foundation, the Government of Côte d'Ivoire is partnering with Winrock International to provide educational alternatives to child labor in cocoa-growing areas of Côte d'Ivoire.¹²⁴⁰

¹²³⁶ ECOWAS and ECASS, *Multilateral Cooperation Agreement to Combat Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, in West and Central Africa*, Abuja, July 7, 2006. See also ILO-IPEC, *LUTRENA technical progress report September 2006*. See also Goujon, Emmanuel, "African States Sign up to Fight Human Trafficking," *Agence France-Presse*, July 7, 2006.

¹²³⁷ *Government of Côte d'Ivoire, Multilateral Cooperation Agreement to Combat Child Trafficking in West Africa, July 27, 2005*.

¹²³⁸ *Government of Côte d'Ivoire, Les efforts de la Cote d'Ivoire en matiere de lutte contre les pires formes de travail des enfants*. See also U.S. Embassy- Abidjan.

¹²³⁹ U.S. Embassy- Abidjan. See also *Government of Côte d'Ivoire, Les efforts de la Cote d'Ivoire en matiere de lutte contre les pires formes de travail des enfants*.

¹²⁴⁰ *Government of Côte d'Ivoire, Les efforts de la Cote d'Ivoire en matiere de lutte contre les pires formes de travail des enfants*. See also World Cocoa Foundation, *Africa- West Africa Winrock CLASSE Program*, [online] [cited February 3, 2007]; available from <http://www.worldcocoafoundation.org/difference/africa-classe.asp>.

Croatia

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Children in Croatia work in the entertainment, hospitality, tourism, retail, industrial, construction, and media sectors.¹²⁴⁹ Trafficking is a problem.¹²⁵⁰

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working:	Unavailable
Minimum age of work:	15 ¹²⁴¹
Age to which education is compulsory:	14 ¹²⁴²
Free public education:	Yes ¹²⁴³
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2003:	94% ¹²⁴⁴
Net primary enrollment rate in 2003:	87% ¹²⁴⁵
Percent of children 5-14 attending school:	Unavailable
Percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	Unavailable
Ratified Convention 138:	10/08/1991 ¹²⁴⁶
Ratified Convention 182:	7/17/2001 ¹²⁴⁷
ILO-IPEC participating country:	No ¹²⁴⁸

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

Children younger than 15 years may participate in artistic endeavors for remuneration with the labor inspector's approval and if the assignment does not threaten their morals or interfere with school.¹²⁵¹ Children 15 to 18 may only work with written permission from a legal guardian and labor inspector, assuming that the work is not harmful to the child's health, morality, education, or development.¹²⁵² Children under 18 are prohibited from working overtime, at night, and under dangerous labor conditions. Specifically, this provision applies to work in bars, nightclubs, and gambling establishments.¹²⁵³ Under Croatian law, anyone

¹²⁴¹ Government of Croatia, *Croatia Labour Act of 2004 (No. 137/2004)*, Article 21(1).

¹²⁴² U.S. Department of State, "Croatia," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, 2006, Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78806.htm>.

¹²⁴³ Government of Croatia, *Constitution of the Republic of Croatia*, (December 1990, as amended on April 2, 2001), Article 65; available from http://www.oefre.unibe.ch/law/icl/hr00000_.html.

¹²⁴⁴ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

¹²⁴⁵ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Rate. Primary. Total*, assessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

¹²⁴⁶ ILOLEX, *Ratifications by Country*, accessed January 31, 2007; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/newratframeE.htm>.

¹²⁴⁷ Ibid.

¹²⁴⁸ ILO- IPEC, *Programme Countries* [website] 2007 [cited March 23 2007]; available from http://www.ilo.org/public/english/standards/ipecc/about/countries/countries_en.pdf.

¹²⁴⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Croatia." Section 6d.

¹²⁵⁰ U.S. Embassy Official-Zagreb, E-mail communication to USDOL official, August 1 2007.

¹²⁵¹ Government of Croatia, *Croatia Labour Act of 2004*, Article 21(2).

¹²⁵² Ibid., Articles 22(1), 22(5), and 23(1).

¹²⁵³ Ibid., Articles 41(5), 62(3), and 23(1). See also *Safety and Health Protection at the Workplace Act, 1996*, (June 28, 1996), Section 40; available from

forcing minors to beg or perform work inappropriate for their age can be penalized with 3 months to 3 years of imprisonment.¹²⁵⁴

The law prohibits international prostitution and solicitation of a minor for sexual purposes, calling for between 1 and 10 years of imprisonment for violations.¹²⁵⁵ The law also stipulates 1 to 5 years of imprisonment for using children for pornographic purposes.¹²⁵⁶ Trafficking in persons is a separate criminal act for which the law stipulates a minimum prison sentence of 5 years when a child or a minor is involved.¹²⁵⁷ Forced and compulsory labor are prohibited.¹²⁵⁸ The minimum age for conscription into the military is 18.¹²⁵⁹

The Ministry of Economy, Labor, and Entrepreneurship collaborates with the ombudsman for children and the State Labor Inspectorate to enforce minimum age laws.¹²⁶⁰ The Inspectorate has 102 inspectors who are responsible for detecting child labor.¹²⁶¹ The ombudsman for children coordinates government efforts to promote and protect the interests of children, and is obligated to report any findings of exploitation to the State's Attorney's Office.¹²⁶² A working group including government officials and NGOs has met regularly to exchange information on trafficking cases and programs.¹²⁶³

Current Government Efforts to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Government of Croatia is implementing its National Program for Suppression of Trafficking in Persons 2005-2008,¹²⁶⁴ a 2005-2007 National Plan for the Suppression of Trafficking in Children,¹²⁶⁵ and a 2006 action plan for trafficking¹²⁶⁶ through a national

<http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/docs/WEBTEXT/45063/65037/E96HRV01.htm>. See also Government of Croatia, *Regulations Concerning Jobs at which a Minor May not Be Employed and Jobs at which a Minor May Be Employed after the prior Determination of the Minor's Health Capacity (Official Gazette No. 59/02)*, as cited in ILO Committee of Experts, *Direct Request on the Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182) Croatia (ratification: 2001)*, [online] 2004 [cited October 19, 2006]; available from <http://webfusion.ilo.org/public/db/standards/normes/appl/index.cfm?lang=EN>.

¹²⁵⁴ *Penal Code*, Section 213(2), as cited in ILO Committee of Experts, *Direct Request (No. 182): Croatia*.

¹²⁵⁵ Government of Croatia, *Criminal Code*, Article 6, as cited in Interpol, *Legislation of Interpol member states on sexual offenses against children*, [online] [cited October 19, 2006]; available from

<http://www.interpol.int/Public/Children/SexualAbuse/NationalLaws/csaCroatia.asp>.

¹²⁵⁶ Government of Croatia, *Criminal Code*, Article 196, as cited in *Ibid*.

¹²⁵⁷ U.S. Embassy- Zagreb, *reporting*, August 27, 2004.

¹²⁵⁸ Government of Croatia, *Constitution of the Republic of Croatia*, Article 23.

¹²⁵⁹ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Croatia," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, London, 2004, 231; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=966.

¹²⁶⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Croatia," Section 6d.

¹²⁶¹ U.S. Embassy- Zagreb, *reporting*, December 19, 2006.

¹²⁶² ILO Committee of Experts, *Direct Request (No. 182): Croatia*.

¹²⁶³ U.S. Department of State, "Croatia (Tier 2)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, DC, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/65988.htm>.

¹²⁶⁴ Government of Croatia, *National Programme for Suppression of Trafficking in Persons 2005-2008*, National Committee for the Suppression of Trafficking in Persons, Zagreb, 2004; available from <http://www.ljudskaprava-vladarh.hr/Download/2005/03/30/Dosta-eng.pdf>.

¹²⁶⁵ Government of Croatia, *National Plan for the Suppression of Trafficking in Children October 2005-December 2007*, National Committee for the Suppression of Trafficking in Persons, Zagreb, 2005; available from <http://www.ljudskaprava->

committee and civil society organizations.¹²⁶⁷ The government also launched the 2006-2012 National Program for the Protection of the Best Interests of Children to prevent and protect children from sexual abuse, including commercial sexual exploitation.¹²⁶⁸ A national-level coordinator has monitored ongoing anti-trafficking efforts in the country.¹²⁶⁹ The government has provided funds and support for anti-trafficking public awareness campaigns, a national referral system, victim identification, shelters, and legal, medical, and psychological services for victims.¹²⁷⁰ Croatian police forces have included anti-trafficking as part of its academy's curriculum.¹²⁷¹ The government also works with international organizations to assist trafficking victims and cooperates with other governments in the region.¹²⁷²

Through 2007, Croatia is participating in a Government of Germany-funded regional program implemented by ILO-IPEC to combat the worst forms of child labor in the Stability Pact Countries.¹²⁷³

vladarh.hr/Download/2006/01/31/NACIONALNI_PROGRAM_ZA_SUZBIJANJE_TRGOVANJA_DJECOM-ENG-MD.doc.

¹²⁶⁶ Government of Croatia, *Action Plan for the Suppression of Trafficking in Persons for 2006*, National Committee for the Suppression of Trafficking in Persons, Zagreb; available from http://www.ljudskaprava-vladarh.hr/Download/2006/01/31/OPERATIVNI_PLAN_za_suzbijanje_trgovanja_ljudima_engl.doc.

¹²⁶⁷ Government of Croatia, *OSCE 2006 Human Dimension Implementation Meeting: Trafficking in Human Beings*, Office for Human Rights, Warsaw, October 3, 2006.

¹²⁶⁸ U.S. Embassy- Zagreb, *reporting*, December 19, 2006.

¹²⁶⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report: Croatia."

¹²⁷⁰ Ibid.

¹²⁷¹ Ibid.

¹²⁷² UNOHCHR UNICEF, OCSE/ODIHR, Barbara Limanowska., *Trafficking in Human Beings in South Eastern Europe: 2004- Focus on Prevention* March 2005, 136-137 and 215; available from <http://www.unicef.org/ceecis/Trafficking.Report.2005.pdf>. See also U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report: Croatia."

¹²⁷³ ILO- IPEC official, email communication, November 15, 2006.

Djibouti

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In urban areas of Djibouti, children work in a variety of activities in the informal sector.¹²⁸⁴

Children work day and night in family-owned businesses such as restaurants and small shops.¹²⁸⁵ Children perform jobs such as shining shoes, guarding and washing cars,¹²⁸⁶ cleaning storefronts, sorting merchandise, selling various items, and changing money.¹²⁸⁷

Some children work as domestic servants and others are involved in begging.¹²⁸⁸ Children are also involved in the sale of drugs.¹²⁸⁹ Many working children are

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children ages 5-14 estimated as working:	Unavailable
Minimum age of work:	16 ¹²⁷⁴
Age to which education is compulsory:	16 ¹²⁷⁵
Free public education:	Yes ^{1276*}
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:	39% ¹²⁷⁷
Net primary enrollment rate in 2004:	32% ¹²⁷⁸
Percent of children 12-14 attending school in 1996:	66.8% ¹²⁷⁹
As of 2001, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	80% ¹²⁸⁰
Ratified Convention 138:	6/14/2005 ¹²⁸¹
Ratified Convention 182:	2/28/2005 ¹²⁸²
ILO-IPEC participating country:	No ¹²⁸³
*Must pay for school supplies and related items.	

¹²⁷⁴ Government of Djibouti, *Loi n°96/AN/00/4èmeL portant Orientation du Système Educatif Djiboutien*, (July 10, 2000), Article 5.

¹²⁷⁵ *Ibid.*, Article 14.

¹²⁷⁶ *Ibid.*, Article 16. See also U.S. Department of State, "Djibouti," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices-2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78731.htm>.

¹²⁷⁷ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

¹²⁷⁸ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Rate. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

¹²⁷⁹ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank Surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, October 7, 2005.

¹²⁸⁰ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Survival Rate to Grade 5. Total*, accessed December 18, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

¹²⁸¹ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, accessed October 18, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/newratframeE.htm>.

¹²⁸² *Ibid.*

¹²⁸³ ILO, *IPEC Action Against Child Labour: Highlights 2006*, Geneva, October 2006; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ippec/prod/eng/20070228_Implementationreport_en_Web.pdf.

¹²⁸⁴ U.S. Embassy - Djibouti, *reporting*, August 17, 2005.

¹²⁸⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Djibouti," Section 6d.

¹²⁸⁶ U.S. Embassy - Djibouti, *reporting*, August 17, 2005.

¹²⁸⁷ Ministry of Employment and National Solidarity official, Interview with USDOL consultant, July 11, 2006, Ministry of Labor official, Interview with USDOL consultant, July 11, 2006.

¹²⁸⁸ U.S. Embassy - Djibouti, *reporting*, August 17, 2005.

¹²⁸⁹ Directorate of Promotion of Women and Social Affairs official, Interview with USDOL consultant, July 16, 2006. See also Open Door Association official, Interview with USDOL consultant, August 9, 2006.

displaced from neighboring countries such as Ethiopia, and some live on the streets.¹²⁹⁰ In rural areas, children work in agriculture and with livestock.¹²⁹¹

Child prostitution occurs in Djibouti.¹²⁹² Many victims are from Ethiopia; HIV/AIDS orphans are especially vulnerable.¹²⁹³ Djiboutian girls who engage in prostitution may be victims of trafficking.¹²⁹⁴ Some children involved in prostitution in Djibouti are reported to be trafficked from neighboring countries, including Ethiopia.¹²⁹⁵

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The minimum age for employment and apprenticeships in Djibouti is 16 years.¹²⁹⁶ Young persons 16 to 18 may not be employed as domestic servants or in hotels and bars.¹²⁹⁷ The law calls for the Ministry of Labor and Ministry of Health to develop additional categories of work that are prohibited to young persons, but these have not yet been established.¹²⁹⁸ Young persons must receive the same payment as adults for similar work. The Labor Inspector can require a medical exam to verify if the work is beyond the capabilities of the young person.¹²⁹⁹ Penalties for non-compliance with the provisions regarding equal pay and medical exams are punishable by fines.¹³⁰⁰ The law also prohibits night work for young persons, with penalties for non-compliance that include fines and, on the second infraction, 15 days of imprisonment.¹³⁰¹

The law prohibits forced and bonded labor.¹³⁰² The law also prohibits the procurement of prostitution, with punishments including a fine and up to 10 years of imprisonment when a minor is involved. Increased penalties also apply if coercion is used or in cases involving the trafficking of persons outside or into the country.¹³⁰³ The law also provides for penalties against the use of children in pornography and trafficking of drugs.¹³⁰⁴ Djibouti does not have compulsory military service. The Government of Djibouti stated in a 1998 report to the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child that "as is the case for all civilian and military jobs, young people under 18 may not be accepted into the army." The government has a voluntary

¹²⁹⁰ Ministry of Employment and National Solidarity official, interview, July 11, 2006.

¹²⁹¹ U.S. Embassy - Djibouti, *reporting*, August 17, 2005.

¹²⁹² U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Djibouti," Section 5.

¹²⁹³ ECPAT International CSEC Database, *Djibouti*, accessed October 12, 2006; available from <http://www.ecpat.net>. See also Delegate Ministry to the Prime Minister Charged with the Promotion of the Woman, Family Well-Being, and Social Affairs, *Analyse de la situation des orphelins et enfants vulnérables (OEV) à Djibouti*, Djibouti, February 2006, 5.

¹²⁹⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Djibouti," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/65988.htm>.

¹²⁹⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Djibouti," Section 5. See also U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Djibouti."

¹²⁹⁶ Government of Djibouti, *Loi n°133/AN/05/5ème L portant Code du Travail*, (January 28, 2006), Articles 5 and 71.

¹²⁹⁷ *Ibid.*, Articles 110-111.

¹²⁹⁸ U.S. Embassy - Djibouti official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, January 23, 2007.

¹²⁹⁹ Djibouti, *Loi n°133/AN/05/5ème L* Articles 109, 112.

¹³⁰⁰ *Ibid.*, Article 288.

¹³⁰¹ *Ibid.*, Articles 94, 289.

¹³⁰² *Ibid.*, Article 2.

¹³⁰³ The Protection Project, *2005 Human Rights Report on Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children*, 2005; available from <http://www.protectionproject.org>.

¹³⁰⁴ U.S. Embassy - Djibouti, *reporting*, August 24, 2004.

national services program for persons ages 16 to 25 that includes 3 months of military training.¹³⁰⁵

The authority to enforce child labor laws and regulations rests with the Police Vice Squad (*Brigade des Moeurs*) and the local police department (*Gendarmerie*).¹³⁰⁶ The *Brigade des Moeurs* has reportedly closed bars where child prostitution may be occurring.¹³⁰⁷ The Labor Inspection Office has the authority to sanction businesses that employ children.¹³⁰⁸ As of April 2006, the labor inspection office had one inspector and six controllers.¹³⁰⁹ According to the U.S. Department of State, this shortage of inspectors limits the government's ability to enforce labor laws.¹³¹⁰

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

Research has not identified any policies or programs by the Government of Djibouti to address exploitive child labor.

¹³⁰⁵ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Djibouti," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, London, 2004, 296; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=966.

¹³⁰⁶ U.S. Embassy- Djibouti, *reporting, August 24, 2004*.

¹³⁰⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Djibouti," in *Trafficking in Persons Interim Assessment*, Washington, DC, January 19, 2007; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/rpt/78948.htm>.

¹³⁰⁸ U.S. Embassy- Djibouti, *reporting, August 24, 2004*.

¹³⁰⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Djibouti."

¹³¹⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Djibouti," Section 6d.

Dominica

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

No changes have been recorded since the last reporting period regarding the incidence and nature of child labor in Dominica.*

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:	95% ¹³¹¹
Net primary enrollment rate in 2004:	88% ¹³¹²

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

In 2006, ILO CEACR reissued a previous statement to Dominica urging the government to increase the statutory minimum age for work to at least 15 years to be in accordance with ILO Convention No.138.¹³¹³

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

Research has not identified any policies or programs by the Government of Dominica to address exploitive child labor.

*For more information, please refer to the U.S. Department of Labor's 2005 Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labor.

¹³¹¹ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

¹³¹² UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Rate. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

¹³¹³ ILO, CEACR: *Individual Observation Concerning Convention No. 138, Minimum Age, 1973 Dominica*, Geneva, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/gbe/ceacr2004.htm>.

Dominican Republic

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2003, approximately 5.6 percent of boys and 0.7 percent of girls ages 10 to 14 were working in the Dominican Republic.¹³²⁵ A Secretariat of Labor (SET) study estimated that 41 percent of working children 5 to 17 worked in services, 21 percent in commerce, 19 percent in agriculture, and 11 percent in manufacturing industries during 2000.¹³²⁶

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 10-14 estimated as working in 2003:	3.2% ¹³¹⁴
Minimum age for admission to work:	14 ¹³¹⁵
Age to which education is compulsory:	14 ¹³¹⁶
Free public education:	Yes* ¹³¹⁷
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:	112% ¹³¹⁸
Net primary enrollment rate in 2004:	86% ¹³¹⁹
Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 2003:	94.9% ¹³²⁰
As of 2003, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	59% ¹³²¹
Ratified Convention 138:	6/15/1999 ¹³²²
Ratified Convention 182:	11/15/2000 ¹³²³
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Yes ¹³²⁴
*Must pay for school supplies and related items.	

¹³¹⁴ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, 2005.

¹³¹⁵ Government of the Dominican Republic, *Código para la Protección de los Derechos de los Niños, Niñas, y Adolescentes*, (August 7, 2003), Article 40; available from <http://www.suprema.gov.do/pdf/leyes/LEY%20136-03.pdf>.

¹³¹⁶ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Statistics: National Education Systems*, [online]; available from http://www.uis.unesco.org/statsen/statistics/yearbook/tables/Table3_1.html. See also Government of the Dominican Republic, *Código para la protección de los derechos de los Niños, Niñas, y Adolescentes*, Article 45 and 46.

¹³¹⁷ Government of the Dominican Republic, *Código para la protección de los derechos de los Niños, Niñas, y Adolescentes*, Article 45. See also UNESCO, *Education for All Global Monitoring Report*, 2006, 84; available from http://portal.unesco.org/education/en/ev.php-URL_ID=43009&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html.

¹³¹⁸ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

¹³¹⁹ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Rate. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

¹³²⁰ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

¹³²¹ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Survival Rate to Grade 5. Total*, accessed December 18, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

¹³²² ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, accessed October 19, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/newratframeE.htm>.

¹³²³ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, [cited October 19, 2006]; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/newratframeE.htm>.

¹³²⁴ ILO, *IPEC Action Against Child Labor: Highlights 2006*, [online] February 2007 [cited March 29, 2007]; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ippec/prod/eng/20070228_Implementationreport_en_Web.pdf.

¹³²⁵ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

¹³²⁶ Dominican Secretariat of Labor and ILO-IPEC, *Report on the Results of the National Child Labour Survey in the Dominican Republic*, San Jose, July 2004, 32; available from

Most work performed by children is in the informal sector.¹³²⁷ In urban areas, children work in the streets, markets, garbage dumps, and repair shops. They perform activities such as washing cars, shining shoes, street sales, and carrying heavy loads.¹³²⁸ Many urban child workers are migrants from other regions.¹³²⁹ Children also work as domestic servants.¹³³⁰ In rural areas, children work mostly in agriculture and services.¹³³¹ Most child agricultural workers are boys.¹³³² Past reports indicate that Haitian children planted and cut sugarcane.¹³³³ There have been conflicting reports as to whether the transport of undocumented Haitians for work in the sugarcane plantations has stopped.¹³³⁴ Many Haitian families have traditionally lived in sugarcane worker villages referred to as “bateyes,” which lack adequate housing, medical, sanitation, and education services. Human rights organizations describe these conditions as modern day slavery.¹³³⁵

The Dominican Republic is a source and destination country for the trafficking of children for commercial sexual exploitation.¹³³⁶ Children are also trafficked internally from rural to tourist areas.¹³³⁷ International organizations estimate that up to 3,000 Haitian children are trafficked to the Dominican Republic each year to work in the streets, in agriculture, and for commercial sexual exploitation.¹³³⁸ Children, particularly Haitian children, are sometimes “adopted” by families who register them as their own and provide some form of payment to the birthparents. Such children are often exploited as domestic workers or as workers in family businesses.¹³³⁹

<http://www.ipec.oit.or.cr/ipecc/region/acciones/simpoc/publicaciones/RD/RD%20-%20national%20report.pdf>.

¹³²⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Dominican Republic," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 6d; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/>.

¹³²⁸ ILO-IPEC, *Día Mundial Contra El Trabajo Infantil*, [online] June 2005 [cited June 27, 2005]; available from <http://www.oit.or.cr/ipecc/encuentros/noticia.php?notCodigo=424>.

¹³²⁹ ILO-IPEC, *Evaluación rápida sobre niños, niñas, y adolescentes trabajadores/as urbanos/as en República Dominicana*, Santo Domingo, December 2002, 34-35.

¹³³⁰ IOM, *Panorama Sobre la Trata de Personas*, Bogota, February 2006, 89; available from <http://www.oim.org.co/modulos/contenido/default.asp?idmodulo=7&idlibro=115>.

¹³³¹ ILO-IPEC, *Report on the Results of the National Child Labour Survey*, 33.

¹³³² ILO-IPEC, *Trabajo Infantil en la Agricultura en cifras*, San Jose, 2005, 13; available from <http://www.oit.org.pe/ipecc/pagina.php?seccion=6&pagina=123>.

¹³³³ U.S. Embassy- Santo Domingo, *reporting*, March 2, 2006.

¹³³⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Dominican Republic."

¹³³⁵ *Ibid.*, Section 5. See also U.S. Embassy- Santo Domingo, *reporting*, March 2, 2006.

¹³³⁶ The Protection Project, *2005 Human Rights Report on Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children*, 2005; available from http://www.protectionproject.org/projects.htm_acc. See also, U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Dominican Republic," Section 5. See also U.S. Department of State, "Dominican Republic (Tier 2)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/>.

¹³³⁷ The Protection Project, *2005 Human Rights Report on Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children*.

¹³³⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Haiti," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/>. See also IOM, *Panorama Sobre la Trata de Personas*, 92. See also ILO-IPEC, *Supporting the Time-Bound Programme for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour in the Dominican Republic - Phase II (2006-2009)*, project document, Geneva, August 2006, 2 and 3.

¹³³⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Dominican Republic," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2005*, Washington, DC, March 8, 2006, Sections 6c and 6d; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2005/index.htm>.

The commercial sexual exploitation of children is a problem, especially in tourist locations such as Boca Chica, Puerto Plata, Sosúa, and Las Terrenas.¹³⁴⁰ In February 2006, one group of Colombian and Dominican Republic traffickers was found guilty of trafficking Colombian girls to the Dominican Republic for prostitution purposes.¹³⁴¹

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The legal minimum age for employment is 14 years.¹³⁴² Work must not interfere with a minor's education.¹³⁴³ Children under 16 may not work for more than 6 hours a day and must have a medical certification.¹³⁴⁴ Special authorization is needed for itinerant sales work.¹³⁴⁵ Females 14 to 16 are prohibited from working as messengers and delivering merchandise.¹³⁴⁶

Minors under 18 are prohibited from dangerous work such as that involving hazardous substances, heavy or dangerous machinery, and heavy loads. Children are also prohibited from night work, work on the street, work in gaming establishments, handling cadavers, various tasks involved in the production of sugarcane, and certain work at hotels. Some exceptions are made for apprenticeships and job training for those older than 16.¹³⁴⁷ Employers are required to pay minors at least the minimum legal wage.¹³⁴⁸ Fines are established for violations of legal provisions involving child labor.¹³⁴⁹

The Law Against Trafficking in Persons and Alien Smuggling establishes penalties of 15 to 20 years of imprisonment as well as fines for trafficking minors.¹³⁵⁰ The Code for the Protection of Children and Adolescents establishes punishments of 20 to 30 years of incarceration and fines for the transfer of a child to someone else for the purposes of forced labor, commercial sexual exploitation, including prostitution and pornography, or other degrading activities, in exchange for compensation.¹³⁵¹ Perpetrators can also receive a prison sentence of up to 10 years

¹³⁴⁰ U.S. Embassy- Santo Domingo, *reporting, March 2, 2006*. See also ILO-IPEC, *Explotación sexual comercial de personas menores de edad en República Dominicana*, September 2002, 13-15. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Dominican Republic."

¹³⁴¹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Dominican Republic," Section 5.

¹³⁴² Government of the Dominican Republic, *Código para la protección de los derechos de los Niños, Niñas, y Adolescentes*, Article 40.

¹³⁴³ Government of the Dominican Republic, *Código de Trabajo de la República Dominicana 1999*, Article 254; available from <http://www.suprema.gov.do/codigos/WelcomeC.htm>. See also Government of the Dominican Republic, *Código para la protección de los derechos de los Niños, Niñas, y Adolescentes*, Article 39.

¹³⁴⁴ Government of the Dominican Republic, *Código de Trabajo 1999*, Article 247-248.

¹³⁴⁵ *Ibid.*, Article 249.

¹³⁴⁶ *Ibid.*, Article 252.

¹³⁴⁷ Government of the Dominican Republic, *Resolución Sobre Trabajos Peligrosos e Insalubres para Personas Menores de 18 Años*, (August 13, 2004); available from <http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/docs/SERIAL/69773/68796/F452892919/DOM69773.pdf>.

¹³⁴⁸ Government of the Dominican Republic, *Código de Trabajo 1999*, Article 258.

¹³⁴⁹ *Ibid.*, Articles 720-721. See also Government of the Dominican Republic, *Trabajos Peligrosos e Insalubres*, Article 6. See also Government of the Dominican Republic, *Código para la protección de los derechos de los Niños, Niñas, y Adolescentes*, Article 44.

¹³⁵⁰ Government of the Dominican Republic, *Ley contra el Tráfico Ilícito de Migrantes y Trata de Personas*, (August 2003).

¹³⁵¹ Government of the Dominican Republic, *Código para la protección de los derechos de los Niños, Niñas, y Adolescentes*, Articles 25 and 409.

and fines for involvement in the commercial sexual exploitation of children; the sexual abuse of children under circumstances involving trafficking; or giving a son, daughter, or student to another person in exchange for compensation.¹³⁵² Fines are established for transporting minors unaccompanied by their parents without authorization.¹³⁵³ Promoting or assisting the trafficking of a minor outside of the country is punishable by 4 to 6 years of imprisonment and fines.¹³⁵⁴ Making, distributing, or publishing pornographic photographs of children is punishable by 2 to 4 years of incarceration and fines.¹³⁵⁵ Crimes involving drug trafficking carry increased penalties if minors were used to carry out the offense.¹³⁵⁶ Forced labor is prohibited by law.¹³⁵⁷ The minimum voluntary and compulsory recruitment age for military service is 16. Recruits must have completed their education.¹³⁵⁸

The Secretary of Labor (SET), in coordination with The National Council for Children and Adolescents (CONANI), is responsible for protecting minors against labor exploitation.¹³⁵⁹ The legal requirement that CONANI receive a minimum of 2 percent of the national budget is not being met.¹³⁶⁰ According to the U.S. Department of State, the government has been working to increase its efforts to protect children from exploitive child labor. The government effectively enforced child labor laws in the formal sector; however it was unable to do so in the informal sector.¹³⁶¹ Labor inspectors from the SET made monthly trips to visit sugarcane worker villages.¹³⁶² The anti-trafficking unit of the Office of the Attorney General investigates and prosecutes trafficking crimes.¹³⁶³ The government has shut down several businesses involved with the commercial sexual exploitation of children, rescued child victims, and obtained related convictions.¹³⁶⁴ Also according to the U.S. Department of State, the Dominican Republic lacks effective trafficking law enforcement and victim protection programs because of lack of resources. Monitoring the border with Haiti has improved; but is still not effective; some government officials are reported to be involved in trafficking.¹³⁶⁵

¹³⁵² Ibid., Articles 396, 404, and 410.

¹³⁵³ Ibid., Articles 204 and 391.

¹³⁵⁴ Ibid., Article 406.

¹³⁵⁵ Ibid., Articles 26 and 411.

¹³⁵⁶ Government of the Dominican Republic, *Law on Drugs and Controlled Substances in the Dominican Republic*, (May 30, 1988), Article 85; available from <http://www.unifr.ch/derechopenal/ley.htm>.

¹³⁵⁷ The Protection Project, *2005 Human Rights Report on Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children*.

¹³⁵⁸ Government of the Dominican Republic, *Ley Orgánica de las Fuerzas Armadas de la República Dominicana*, 873, (1996), Article 30; available from <http://www.secffaa.mil.do/Ley1.htm>.

¹³⁵⁹ Government of the Dominican Republic, *Código para la protección de los derechos de los Niños, Niñas, y Adolescentes*, Article 34.

¹³⁶⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Dominican Republic."

¹³⁶¹ Ibid., Section 5.

¹³⁶² U.S. Embassy- Santo Domingo, *reporting* December 16, 2006.

¹³⁶³ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Dominican Republic."

¹³⁶⁴ Ibid. See also U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Dominican Republic."

¹³⁶⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Dominican Republic." See also U.S. Embassy- Santo Domingo, *reporting*, March 2, 2006. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Dominican Republic."

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Government of the Dominican Republic has both a National Plan to Eradicate the Worst Forms of Child Labor (2006-2016) and an Action Plan for the Eradication of Abuse and Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Boys, Girls, and Adolescents.¹³⁶⁶

The government supported several child labor, trafficking, and commercial sexual exploitation awareness campaigns, workshops, and trainings, and provides some funding to NGOs that work with trafficking victims.¹³⁶⁷ The SET has formed provincial and municipal child labor committees.¹³⁶⁸ The armed forces provide educational and recreational programs for working and at-risk children and run a shelter for such children.¹³⁶⁹ The Technical Institute for Professional Development trains trafficking victims and at-risk children, especially those in the Boca Chica area.¹³⁷⁰ The Tourism Police provides counseling services to abused children, including victims of trafficking.¹³⁷¹ CONANI operates a referral center for child victims of commercial sexual exploitation in Boca Chica and runs seven shelters for children.¹³⁷²

The SET participates in several ILO-IPEC projects funded by USDOL,¹³⁷³ including three projects to specifically support the government's Timebound Program to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor. The first USD 1.3 million project, which ended in 2006, withdrew 2,079 children and prevented 1,330 children from exploitive labor; it also developed a community-based child labor monitoring system. A second USD 4.4 million project, which also ended in 2006, withdrew 2,858 and prevented 6,757 children from exploitive labor in agriculture, commercial sexual exploitation, urban work, and trafficking. In 2006, a third USD 2.7 million, 39-month project began that aims to withdraw 2,900 children and prevent 2,200 children from exploitive labor.¹³⁷⁴ The Office of the First Lady administers a program to provide income-

¹³⁶⁶ ILO, *Plan Estratégico Nacional para la erradicación de las peores formas de trabajo infantil en República Dominicana 2006 -2016*, Santo Domingo, August 2006. See also Boys and Adolescents Interinstitutional Commission Against the Abuse and Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Girls, *Plan de Acción de la República Dominicana Para Erradicar el Abuso y la Explotación Sexual Comercial de Niñas, Niños y Adolescentes*, ILO, Dominican Republic, January 2006; available from http://www.oit.org.pe/ipec/documentos/plan_nacional_esc.pdf.

¹³⁶⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Dominican Republic." See also U.S. Embassy- Santo Domingo, *reporting*, March 2, 2006.

¹³⁶⁸ ILO-IPEC, *Preparatory Activities for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor in the Dominican Republic*, Geneva, September 7, 2006, 2. See also Resolution 37, (September 2, 2005), Article 1; available from <http://portal.set.gov.do/legislacion/resolucion2005.asp>. See also U.S. Embassy- Santo Domingo, *reporting*, December 16, 2006.

¹³⁶⁹ U.S. Embassy- Santo Domingo, *reporting*, March 2, 2006. See also IOM, *Panorama Sobre la Trata de Personas*, 109.

¹³⁷⁰ U.S. Embassy- Santo Domingo, *reporting*, March 2, 2006.

¹³⁷¹ IOM, *Panorama Sobre la Trata de Personas*, 110.

¹³⁷² ILO-IPEC, *Preparatory Activities*, 19. See also U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Dominican Republic."

¹³⁷³ Secretariat of Labor, *Memoria de las acciones realizadas a partir del mes de Septiembre del 2004*, [online] [cited October 19, 2006]; available from http://portal.set.gov.do/legislacion/memoria_acciones.asp.

¹³⁷⁴ ILO-IPEC, *Combating the Worst Forms of Child Labour in the Dominican Republic - Supporting the Timebound Program for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor in the Dominican Republic*, project document, DOM/02/P50/USA, Geneva, September 2002, 21. See also ILO-IPEC, *Trafficking/Smuggling Amendment to Supporting the TBP for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour in the Dominican Republic*, project

generating opportunities to families of children at-risk for commercial sexual exploitation, including beneficiaries of ILO-implemented projects.¹³⁷⁵ The government also participates in a USDOL-funded USD 8.8 million regional project to eliminate commercial sexual exploitation of children in Central America and the Dominican Republic, targeting 713 children for withdrawal and 657 children for prevention.¹³⁷⁶ As part of an effort to build capacity to improve labor law compliance among the CAFTA-DR partners, USDOL is providing USD 2.85 million for a project to strengthen outreach efforts in the agriculture sector in the region, where child labor is a serious problem.¹³⁷⁷ A second regional project targeting hazardous agricultural child labor was funded by USDOL for USD 900,000 and completed in 2005, withdrawing 1,405 and preventing 5,744 children from working in hazardous labor conditions.¹³⁷⁸

Additionally, the government participates in two USDOL-funded Child Labor Education Initiative projects including a USD 5.5 million, 4-year regional project implemented by CARE to strengthen the government and civil society's capacity to combat child labor through education, and withdraw or prevent 2,780 children from exploitive child labor. Also, a USD 3 million, 4-year project implemented by DevTech Systems, Inc. seeks to withdraw 3,170 children and prevent 1,047 from entering exploitive labor by improving the quality of and access to basic education.¹³⁷⁹

addendum, Geneva, September 2, 2004, 16. See also ILO-IPEC, *Supporting the Time-Bound Programme - Phase II, project document*, vi, vii. and 20-24.

¹³⁷⁵ ILO-IPEC, *Preparatory Activities*, 11.

¹³⁷⁶ ILO-IPEC, *Contribution to the Prevention and Elimination of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children in Central America, Panama and the Dominican Republic*, project addendum, Geneva, September 2005, 1. See also ILO-IPEC, *Prevention and Progressive Elimination of Child Labour in Agriculture in Central America and the Dominican Republic (Phase II)*, project document, Geneva, September 13, 2003.

¹³⁷⁷ Social Accountability International, *Project CULTIVAR: Advancing Labor Rights in Agriculture in Central America*, project document, New York, August 8, 2007.

¹³⁷⁸ ILO-IPEC, *Prevention and Progressive Elimination of Child Labour in the Tomato Producing Sector in the Province of Azua, the Dominican Republic (Phase 1)*, technical progress report, Geneva, August 17, 2005.

¹³⁷⁹ CARE, *Combating Exploitive Child Labor Through Education in Central America (Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua) and the Dominican Republic*, project document, Geneva, June 2, 2004, 3. See also DevTech Systems Inc., *Combating Child Labor Through Education*, technical progress report, Arlington, Virginia, September 28, 2005, 1, 2.

East Timor

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In East Timor, many children work in agriculture;¹³⁸⁷ some children work in the streets of the capital, Dili, selling items and washing cars.¹³⁸⁸ There are unconfirmed reports of children used to smuggle goods across the border into Indonesia.¹³⁸⁹

Authorities have recognized that child trafficking is a problem, but there is little information about the nature of the trafficking. Most

trafficked children are brought to East Timor for prostitution. There have been reports of girls trafficked into East Timor, but their countries of origin are unknown.¹³⁹⁰ Although East Timor was not previously considered a source country, starting in 2006, there is evidence that East Timorese girls are targeted for trafficking.¹³⁹¹ There are reports of internal trafficking of girls from rural areas to the capital, Dili, for commercial sexual exploitation.¹³⁹²

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children ages 5-14 estimated as working:	Unavailable
Minimum age for admission to work:	15 ¹³⁸⁰
Age to which education is compulsory:	Not defined ¹³⁸¹
Free public education:	Yes ^{1382*}
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2003:	146% ¹³⁸³
Net primary enrollment rate:	Unavailable
Percent of children 5-14 attending school:	Unavailable
Percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	Unavailable
Ratified Convention 138:	No ¹³⁸⁴
Ratified Convention 182:	No ¹³⁸⁵
ILO-IPEC participating country:	No ¹³⁸⁶
*Guaranteed by law, but no system has been established to ensure that education is available.	

¹³⁸⁰ U.S. Department of State, "East Timor," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, section 6d; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78772.htm>.

¹³⁸¹ Ibid., section 5. See also Government of East Timor, *Constitution of the Democratic Republic of East Timor*, (2002), article 59; available from <http://www.eastimorlawjournal.org/LAWSINDEPENDENCE/ConstitutionofRDTLinEnglish.html>.

¹³⁸² U.S. Department of State, "East Timor," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2005*, Washington, DC, March 8, 2006, section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2005/61607.htm>. See also Government of East Timor, *Constitution of East Timor*, Article 59.

¹³⁸³ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment ratio. Primary. Total*, December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

¹³⁸⁴ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, accessed March 21, 2007; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/newratframeE.htm>.

¹³⁸⁵ Ibid.

¹³⁸⁶ ILO, *IPEC Actions Against Child Labour: Highlights 2006*, Geneva, October 2006; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ipcc/prod/eng/20070228_Implementationreport_en_Web.pdf.

¹³⁸⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: East Timor," section 6d.

¹³⁸⁸ ILO, *East Timor: An New Labour Code for the World's Newest Country*, [online] 2002 [cited February 6, 2007]; available from <http://www.ilo.org/public/english/bureau/inf/magazine/43/timor.htm>.

¹³⁸⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2005: East Timor," section 6d.

¹³⁹⁰ Ibid. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: East Timor," section 5.

¹³⁹¹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: East Timor," section 5.

¹³⁹² U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report - 2006: East Timor," Washington, D.C., 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/65988.htm>.

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum age for employment at 15 years and prohibits work by a child between 15 and 18 years that would jeopardize their health, safety or morals. However, the official minimum age of 15 does not apply to family-owned businesses, and children working in vocational schools are exempted.¹³⁹³ Further, the law allows for light work for children older than 12.¹³⁹⁴ According to the U.S. Department of State, enforcement of the labor code is limited, especially outside of the capital, Dili.¹³⁹⁵

The law forbids compulsory work.¹³⁹⁶ Trafficking is prohibited, and the penalty for trafficking minors is imprisonment of 5 to 12 years.¹³⁹⁷ The U.S. Department of State also reports no enforcement efforts or prosecutions of traffickers during 2006. In fact, the U.S. Department of State has stated that credible reports suggest that police and customs officials have colluded with traffickers.¹³⁹⁸

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

Research has not identified any policies or programs by the Government of East Timor to address exploitive child labor.

¹³⁹³ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2005: East Timor." See also Government of East Timor, *Labour Code of the Democratic Republic of East Timor*, (May 1, 2002), section 11.3; available from <http://www.doingbusiness.org/Documents/LawLibrary/Timor-Leste-Labour-Code.pdf>.

¹³⁹⁴ Government of East Timor, *Labour Code of East Timor*, section 11.

¹³⁹⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: East Timor," section 5.

¹³⁹⁶ Government of East Timor, *Constitution of East Timor*, section 50.

¹³⁹⁷ Government of East Timor, *Immigration and Asylum Law* (May 6, 2003), article 81; available from <http://www.eastimorlawjournal.org/LAWSINDEPENDENCE/9of2004immigrationasylum.html>.

¹³⁹⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report - 2006: East Timor."

Ecuador

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2001, 19 percent of boys and 11.7 percent of girls ages 5 to 14 were working in Ecuador. The majority of working children were found in the agricultural sector (67.5 percent), followed by services (20.9 percent), manufacturing (9.7 percent) and other sectors (1.9 percent).¹⁴¹⁰ A large percentage of working children between the ages of 5 and 17 are found in rural areas of the *sierra*, or

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 2001:	15.4% ¹³⁹⁹
Minimum age for admission to work:	15 ¹⁴⁰⁰
Age to which education is compulsory:	14 ¹⁴⁰¹
Free public education:	Yes ^{1402*}
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:	117% ¹⁴⁰³
Net primary enrollment rate in 2004:	98% ¹⁴⁰⁴
Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 2001:	89.8% ¹⁴⁰⁵
As of 2003, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	76% ¹⁴⁰⁶
Ratified Convention 138:	9/19/2000 ¹⁴⁰⁷
Ratified Convention 182:	9/19/2000 ¹⁴⁰⁸
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Yes ¹⁴⁰⁹
*Must pay for school supplies and related items.	

¹³⁹⁹ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, December 20, 2006.

¹⁴⁰⁰ Government of Ecuador, *Código de la Niñez y Adolescencia*, N 2002-100, (January 3, 2003), Article 82; available from <http://www.oit.org.pe/spanish/260ameri/oitreg/activid/proyectos/ipecc/boletin/documentos/cna.doc>.

¹⁴⁰¹ UNESCO, *Education for All - EFA Global Monitoring Report 2007*, 2007; available from <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0014/001477/147794E.pdf>.

¹⁴⁰² U.S. Department of State, "Ecuador," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78890.htm>.

¹⁴⁰³ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

¹⁴⁰⁴ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Rate. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

¹⁴⁰⁵ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

¹⁴⁰⁶ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Survival Rate to Grade 5. Total*, accessed December 18, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

¹⁴⁰⁷ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, accessed October 20, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/docs/declworld.htm>.

¹⁴⁰⁸ Ibid.

¹⁴⁰⁹ ILO-IPEC, *All About IPEC: Programme Countries*, [online] [cited December 15 2006]; available from http://www.ilo.org/public/english/standards/ipecc/about/countries/t_country.htm.

¹⁴¹⁰ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

highlands, followed by the Amazon and urban coastal areas.¹⁴¹¹ In urban areas, children beg on the streets, work in commerce selling candies and newspapers, or provide services as messengers, domestic servants, shoe shiners, garbage collectors and recyclers.¹⁴¹²

The commercial sexual exploitation of children occurs in Ecuador.¹⁴¹³ An ILO report estimates that 5,200 children are engaged in prostitution.¹⁴¹⁴ Colombian women and girls are trafficked to Ecuador for commercial sexual exploitation. However, most victims are trafficked within the country's borders.¹⁴¹⁵ According to the U.S. Department of State, Ecuador has been making significant progress in identifying and punishing trafficking.¹⁴¹⁶

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum age for employment at 15 years and identifies categories of dangerous work that are prohibited for minors.¹⁴¹⁷ Child labor provisions do not apply to children involved in formative cultural or ancestral practices as long as they are not exposed to physical or psychological harm.¹⁴¹⁸ The law prohibits adolescents from working more than 6 hours per day or more than 5 days per week.¹⁴¹⁹ The law also prohibits adolescents from working in mines, garbage dumps, slaughterhouses, and quarries, and from working with hazardous materials or in jobs that could be hazardous to the child's physical or mental health.¹⁴²⁰ The Labor Inspectorate and the municipalities oversee labor contracts and work permits for adolescents between 15 and 18 years.¹⁴²¹ The law prescribes sanctions for violations of child labor laws, such as monetary fines and the closing of establishments where child labor occurs.¹⁴²²

The law specifically calls for children in Ecuador to be protected in the workplace and against economic exploitation. The law also protects minors against trafficking, prostitution, pornography, and the forced use of illegal drugs and alcohol.¹⁴²³ Trafficking in persons for

¹⁴¹¹ ILO-IPEC, INDEC, Mintrabajo e INFFA presentan resultados preliminares de Encuesta Nacional: 38.6% de niños y niñas entre 5 y 17 años trabajan en el área rural de Ecuador, [online] December 2001 – February 2002 [cited January 31, 2007]; available from <http://www.oit.org.pe/ipecc/boletin/noticias/vernoticia,36.php>.

¹⁴¹² U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Ecuador." See also ECPAT International CSEC Database, Ecuador, accessed October 16, 2006; available from <http://www.ecpat.net>.

¹⁴¹³ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Ecuador." See also ECPAT International CSEC Database, Ecuador.

¹⁴¹⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Ecuador," Section 5.

¹⁴¹⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Ecuador (Tier 2)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/65988.htm>.

¹⁴¹⁶ Ibid. See also U.S. Department of State, *Trafficking in Persons Interim Assessment*, [online] 2006 [cited January 31, 2007]; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/rpt/78948.htm>.

¹⁴¹⁷ Government of Ecuador, *Código de la Niñez y Adolescencia*, Articles 81-95.

¹⁴¹⁸ Ibid., Article 86.

¹⁴¹⁹ Ibid., Article 84.

¹⁴²⁰ Ibid., Article 87.

¹⁴²¹ Ibid., Articles 88-93.

¹⁴²² Ibid., Articles 81, 82, 95.

¹⁴²³ Government of Ecuador, *Constitución Política de la República de Ecuador*, (1998), Article 50; available from <http://pdba.georgetown.edu/Constitutions/Ecuador/ecuador98.html>.

both sexual exploitation and for non-sexual purposes is prohibited¹⁴²⁴ and can carry up to a 35-year jail term.¹⁴²⁵ The law punishes individuals involved in child prostitution regardless of the victim's consent. The age of consent is 18. The law establishes 6 to 12 years in prison for promoting child sex tourism.¹⁴²⁶ The age of compulsory military service is 18 years.¹⁴²⁷

The Specialized National Police Unit for Children (DINAPEN) leads actions against trafficking.¹⁴²⁸ With USG assistance, Ecuador has increased the number of trafficking law enforcement officials and prosecutors. A specialized 36-member police unit and an 8-member trafficking intelligence unit were created during 2006.¹⁴²⁹ The Government has been actively conducting new investigations and prosecutions under the anti-trafficking legislation.¹⁴³⁰ During this year, Ecuadorian authorities arrested 41 persons and reported 15 cases of trafficking that reached some stage of prosecution. One trafficker was sentenced to 9 years in prison.¹⁴³¹ Rescued minors returned to their families or were directed to specialized NGOs.¹⁴³²

In 2006, the Ministry of Labor permanently hired 28 child labor inspectors who are currently operating in 22 provinces.¹⁴³³ Inspections were conducted in businesses and plantations, resulting in fines for flower and banana plantations, brick makers, and furniture makers.¹⁴³⁴ The fines collected will be reinvested, with some of the funds going to education scholarships for the identified children.¹⁴³⁵

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Government of Ecuador, through the National Committee for the Progressive Elimination of Child Labor (CONEPTI), oversaw its National Plan for the Progressive Elimination of Child Labor 2003-2006 (PETI Plan).¹⁴³⁶ In 2006, CONEPTI was strengthened through the establishment of a Technical Secretariat with the operating capacity to follow up on projects,

¹⁴²⁴ Government of Ecuador, *Ley Reformativa al Código Penal que tipifica los delitos de explotación sexual de los menores de edad*, Article 8; available from http://www.congreso.gov.ec/documentos/pro_aprobados/25-330.pdf.

¹⁴²⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Ecuador." See also U.S. Embassy Official-Quito, E-mail communication to USDOL Official, August 18, 2006.

¹⁴²⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Ecuador," Section 5.

¹⁴²⁷ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Ecuador," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, London, 2004; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=824. See also Government of Ecuador, *Constitución Política de la República de Ecuador*, Article 188.

¹⁴²⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Ecuador." See also U.S. Department of State, "Ecuador," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2005*, Washington, DC, March 8, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2005/61726.htm>.

¹⁴²⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Ecuador," Section 5.

¹⁴³⁰ U.S. Department of State, *Trafficking in Persons Interim Assessment*.

¹⁴³¹ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Ecuador."

¹⁴³² U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Ecuador," Section 5.

¹⁴³³ Embassy of Ecuador, *Acciones Undertaken by the State of Ecuador to Prevent and Eradicate Child Labor*, 2006.

¹⁴³⁴ Catholic Relief Services, *SOY! Project*, technical progress report, Quito, September 20, 2006.

¹⁴³⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Ecuador," Section 6d.

¹⁴³⁶ Ministry of Labor and Employment, *Plan Nacional para la Prevención y Erradicación Progresiva del Trabajo Infantil en el Ecuador- PETI*, Quito, December 26, 2005; available from http://www.oit.org.pe/ipec/documentos/plan_eti_ecuador.pdf.

negotiate agreements, promote awareness, train stakeholders on program goals and make policy decisions regarding inspectors and social controllers.¹⁴³⁷

In 2006, the Inter-Institutional Commission for Combating Trafficking in Persons approved a National Plan to combat trafficking. The plan lays the framework for combating illegal migration and trafficking, sexual and labor exploitation, prostitution, pornography and other forms of exploitation of women and minors.¹⁴³⁸ The government has provided training and resources to combat trafficking, and continued to work with civil society to train officials, raise public awareness, and improve victims' protection.¹⁴³⁹

In October 2006, The Ministry of Tourism launched an awareness raising campaign to prevent the commercial sexual exploitation of children related to tourism. The USD 60,000 campaign will produce posters, billboards and brochures to be distributed and displayed at highways, airports and tourist agencies.¹⁴⁴⁰

The National Institute for Children and Family (INNFA) began efforts to raise awareness on trafficking in persons through radio, television and other initiatives. The government worked with the private sector for distributing anti-trafficking messages at several venues, such as public theaters and local air flights, and through fliers enclosed with bank and credit card statements.¹⁴⁴¹

The Government of Ecuador supports education programs that contribute to the withdrawal or prevention of children from exploitive labor. INNFA implements several educational programs for working children. One program reintegrates working children and adolescents from the ages of 8 to 15 into the school system to complete the basic education cycle. Another program provides vocational training and alternative recreational activities to working children between 8 and 17 years, as well as raising the awareness of parents on the dangers of exploitive labor. For adolescents 10 to 17 years who have not completed primary schooling and are more than 3 years behind their peers, INNFA offers an accelerated learning program to help them complete the equivalent of basic education.¹⁴⁴²

As part of its social protection network, the Social Protection Program (PPS) at the Ministry of Social Welfare provides scholarships for children who left school for economic reasons to reinsert child laborers back into the school system.¹⁴⁴³

¹⁴³⁷ Embassy of Ecuador, *Actions Undertaken by the State of Ecuador to Prevent and Eradicate Child Labor*.

¹⁴³⁸ ILO-IPEC, *TPR*, technical progress report, Geneva, September 30, 2006.

¹⁴³⁹ U.S. Department of State, *Trafficking in Persons Interim Assessment*.

¹⁴⁴⁰ Ministry of Tourism, *La explotación sexual en turismo gana una campaña de prevención*, [online] 2006 [cited November 17, 2006]; available from

http://www.turismo.gov.ec/ministerio/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=156&Itemid=2.

¹⁴⁴¹ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Ecuador."

¹⁴⁴² INNFA, *Proyectos*, [online] 2006 [cited October 16, 2006]; available from

http://www.innfa.org/innfa/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=141&Itemid=148&lang=es.

¹⁴⁴³ Ministry of Social Welfare, *La Red de Protección y Rehabilitación Social - Programa de Protección Social*, [online] 2006 [cited October 16, 2006]; available from <http://www.pps.gov.ec/paginas/pps/redphs.htm>.

The Ministry of Labor has implemented a pilot awareness-raising project for the eradication of child labor in the Tarqui Market of the city of Manta. The project provides services to 260 children who were withdrawn and 500 children who were prevented from the worst forms of child labor in the area.¹⁴⁴⁴

A USD 4 million Timebound Program, funded by USDOL and implemented by ILO-IPEC through 2008, complements the government's plan to eliminate the worst forms of child labor in the country. This project targets 2,120 children for withdrawal and 2,880 children for prevention from exploitive labor.¹⁴⁴⁵ In addition, the Government of Ecuador participates in a USD 3 million USDOL-funded 4-year program implemented by Catholic Relief Services to combat exploitive child labor through access to quality education. This project targets 619 children for withdrawal and 9,701 children for prevention from work in the banana and cut flower industries.¹⁴⁴⁶ An ongoing USD 4 million USDOL-funded project, initiated in 2005 by World Learning and Development and Self-management (DYA), combats child labor within the indigenous population through the provision of education services. This project targets 2,124 indigenous children for withdrawal and 4,054 indigenous children for prevention from exploitive work in the Sierra, Amazon, and Quito.¹⁴⁴⁷ Ecuador also participates in a USD 2.1 million global SIMPOC project funded by Canada with technical assistance from ILO-IPEC.¹⁴⁴⁸ To address trafficking in persons, including children, the State Department's Trafficking in Persons Office and USAID fund six programs in Ecuador with a total cost of nearly USD 1.3 million.¹⁴⁴⁹

¹⁴⁴⁴ Embassy of Ecuador, *Actions Undertaken by the State of Ecuador to Prevent and Eradicate Child Labor*.

¹⁴⁴⁵ ILO-IPEC, *Supporting the Time-Bound Program for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor in Ecuador*, Project Document, ECU/03/P50/USA, Geneva, August, 2003.

¹⁴⁴⁶ U.S. Department of Labor, *ILAB Technical Cooperation Project Summary: Project SOY! - Combating the Worst Forms of Child Labor through Education in Ecuador*, 2004.

¹⁴⁴⁷ U.S. Department of Labor, *ILAB Technical Cooperation Project Summary: Project Wiñari - Combating the Worst Forms of Child Labor through Education in Ecuador*, 2005.

¹⁴⁴⁸ ILO-IPEC, *IPEC Projects from all Donors except USDOL*, November 3, 2006.

¹⁴⁴⁹ U.S. Embassy Official-Quito, E-mail communication to USDOL Official, August 7 2007.

Egypt

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2005, approximately 9.5 percent of boys and 3.7 percent of girls ages 5 to 14 were working in Egypt.¹⁴⁶¹ A large proportion of working children are found in the agricultural sector, where children are hired each year for the cotton harvest. Children are also found working on

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5 -14 estimated as working in 2005:	6.7% ¹⁴⁵⁰
Minimum age of work:	14 ¹⁴⁵¹
Age to which education is compulsory:	9 school years ¹⁴⁵²
Free public education:	Yes ¹⁴⁵³
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:	101% ¹⁴⁵⁴
Net primary enrollment rate in 2004:	95% ¹⁴⁵⁵
Percent of children 6-14 attending school in 2005:	88.1% ¹⁴⁵⁶
As of 2003, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	99% ¹⁴⁵⁷
Ratified Convention 138:	6/9/1999 ¹⁴⁵⁸
Ratified Convention 182:	5/6/2002 ¹⁴⁵⁹
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Yes ¹⁴⁶⁰

¹⁴⁵⁰ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank Surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, March 1, 2007.

¹⁴⁵¹ Government of Egypt, *Labour Law*, Law No. 12/2003, (April 7), Article 99. See also ILO-IPEC, *Gender, Education and Child Labour in Egypt*, prepared by Kawther Abu Gazaleh, Lamia Bulbul, and Suadad Najium, 2004; available from http://www.ilo.org/public/english/standards/ipec/publ/download/gender_edu_egypt_2004_en.pdf.

¹⁴⁵² Government of Egypt, *The Constitution of the Arab Republic of Egypt*, (May 22,), Article 18. See also U.S. Department of State, "Egypt," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78851.htm>. See also UN Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD), *Periodic Reports of States Parties due in 1999*, CERD/C/384/Add.3, prepared by Government of Egypt, pursuant to Article 9 of the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Racial Discrimination, April 11, 2001, paras. 308-310; available from <http://www.arabhumanrights.org/countries/egypt/cerd/cerd-c384-add3-01e.pdf>.

¹⁴⁵³ Government of Egypt, *Constitution of Egypt*, Article 20. See also UN Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD), *Periodic Reports of States Parties: Egypt*, para. 302.

¹⁴⁵⁴ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank Surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

¹⁴⁵⁵ Ibid.

¹⁴⁵⁶ Ibid.

¹⁴⁵⁷ Ibid.

¹⁴⁵⁸ Ibid.

¹⁴⁵⁹ Ibid.

¹⁴⁶⁰ ILO-IPEC, *IPEC Action Against Child Labor: Highlights 2006*, Geneva, October 2006, 29; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ipec/prod/eng/20061019_Implementationreport_eng_Web.pdf.

¹⁴⁶¹ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank Surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

construction sites and in light industry.¹⁴⁶² Children work in a number of hazardous sectors, including leather tanning, pottery making, glassworks, blacksmithing, working metal and copper, battery repair and carpentry, mining and quarrying, carpet weaving, auto repair, and textile and plastics manufacturing.¹⁴⁶³

Reports indicate a widespread practice of poor rural families arranging to send their daughters to cities to work as domestic servants in the homes of wealthy citizens. Child domestic workers are excluded from the protections of the labor code and are highly susceptible to exploitation, including physical and sexual abuse as well as harsh working conditions.¹⁴⁶⁴ Urban areas are also host to large numbers of street children who have left their homes in the countryside to find work, and often to flee hostile conditions at home.¹⁴⁶⁵ Street children work shining shoes, collecting rubbish, begging, cleaning and directing cars into parking spaces, and selling food and trinkets.¹⁴⁶⁶ Street children are particularly vulnerable to becoming involved in illicit activities, including pornography and prostitution.¹⁴⁶⁷ In Egypt, children from rural areas are reportedly trafficked internally for agricultural work or domestic labor.¹⁴⁶⁸

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law prohibits the employment of children under 14 years.¹⁴⁶⁹ The law also prohibits juveniles 14 to 17 from working more than 6 hours per day; requires at least a 1 hour break; and prohibits juveniles from working overtime, on holidays, more than 4 consecutive hours, or between 7 p.m. and 7 a.m.¹⁴⁷⁰ However, these provisions do not apply to children working in

¹⁴⁶² U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Egypt," Section 6d. See also ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations (CEACR), "Comments made by the CEACR: Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138), Egypt (ratification: 1999)" (paper presented at the 75th Session, Geneva, 2002); available from <http://webfusion.ilo.org/public/db/standards/normes/appl/>. See also UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, *Egypt: Children of the Quarries*, [online] April 9, 2006 [cited October 22, 2006]; available from

http://www.irinnews.org/report.asp?ReportID=52702&SelectRegion=Middle_East&SelectCountry=EGYPT.

¹⁴⁶³ ILO-IPEC official, Email communication to USDOL official, January 7, 2002. See also U.S. Embassy- Cairo, *reporting*, October 2001. See also Tonia Rifaey, Mahmoud M. Murtada, and Mohamed Abd el-Azeem, "Urban Children and Poverty: Child Labor and Family Dynamics- Case Studies in Old Cairo" (paper presented at the Children and the City Conference, Amman, Jordan, December 11-13, 2002); available from <http://www.araburban.org/childcity/Papers/English/ToniaRifaey.pdf>.

¹⁴⁶⁴ Karam Saber, *A Situational Analysis of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children in Egypt*, Land Centre for Human Rights (LCHR), March 2003, 10-11; available from http://www.ecpat.net/eng/ecpat_inter/projects/monitoring/rabat/egypt.pdf.

¹⁴⁶⁵ Clarisa Bencomo, *Charged with Being Children: Egyptian Police Abuse of Children in Need of Protection*, Vol.15, No.1, Human Rights Watch (HRW), New York, February 2003, 9, para. 21d; available from <http://www.hrw.org/reports/2003/egypt0203/egypt0203.pdf>.

¹⁴⁶⁶ *Ibid.*, cover page, 9, 49.

¹⁴⁶⁷ *Ibid.*, 40. See also ECPAT International, *Egypt*, [database online] [cited October 22, 2006]; available from http://www.ecpat.net/eng/Ecpat_inter/projects/monitoring/online_database/index.asp. See also Saber, *Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children in Egypt*, 5-6.

¹⁴⁶⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Egypt (Tier 2 Watch List)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/>.

¹⁴⁶⁹ Government of Egypt, *Labour Law*, Article 99. See also ILO-IPEC, *Gender, Education and Child Labour in Egypt*, 27.

¹⁴⁷⁰ Government of Egypt, *Labour Law*, Articles 98, 101.

the agricultural sector, small family enterprises, and domestic service.¹⁴⁷¹ The law also allows the employment of children 12 to 14 years in seasonal jobs that do not harm their health or affect their schooling,¹⁴⁷² and children 12 to 18 may participate in certain types of apprenticeship training.¹⁴⁷³ Children under 16 are prohibited from working in 44 hazardous industries, including agricultural activities involving the use of pesticides.¹⁴⁷⁴

Egyptian law does not specifically prohibit trafficking in persons;¹⁴⁷⁵ however, prohibitions exist against forced labor, rape, prostitution; traffickers may be prosecuted for the abduction of children.¹⁴⁷⁶ The law prohibits forced labor and makes it illegal for a person to entice or assist a male under 21 or a female of any age to depart the country to work in prostitution or other "immoral" activities. The law also prohibits the incitement of any person under 21 to commit any act of prostitution or "immorality," including the use of children in the production, promotion or distribution of pornography. Violations of these laws are punishable with imprisonment for 1 to 7 years.¹⁴⁷⁷ The minimum age for compulsory recruitment into the armed forces is 18 years. Children may enter the armed forces at 16 but may not engage in combat operations.¹⁴⁷⁸

The Child Labor Unit within the Ministry of Manpower and Migration (MOMM) coordinates investigations into reports of child labor violations and ensures enforcement of the laws pertaining to child labor. A separate unit within the MOMM is responsible for child labor inspections in the agricultural sector.¹⁴⁷⁹ The U.S. Department of State reports that enforcement in state-owned businesses is adequate, although enforcement in the private and informal sectors is lacking.¹⁴⁸⁰ There is a shortage of labor inspectors trained to identify in cases

¹⁴⁷¹ Ibid., Article 103. See also ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations (CEACR), "CEACR Comments".

¹⁴⁷² U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Egypt," Section 6d. See also ILO-IPEC, *Gender, Education and Child Labour in Egypt*, 28. See also ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations (CEACR), "CEACR Comments".

¹⁴⁷³ Government of Egypt, *Decree Concerning the Rules and Procedures Regulating Vocational Apprenticeship*, Decree No. 175 of 2003, (August 31), Articles 1-16.

¹⁴⁷⁴ Government of Egypt, *Decree Determining the System of Employing Children, and the Conditions, Terms and Cases in which They Are Employed as well as the Works, Vocations, and Industries in which it is Prohibited to Employ Them, According to the Different Stages of Age*, Decree No. 118 of 2003, (June 30), Articles 1-9. See also U.S. Embassy-Cairo, *reporting*, August 18, 2003. See also ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations (CEACR), "CEACR Comments".

¹⁴⁷⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Egypt."

¹⁴⁷⁶ U.S. Embassy- Cairo, *reporting*, March 2, 2005. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Egypt," Section 5.

¹⁴⁷⁷ Interpol, *Legislation of Interpol Member States on Sexual Offences against Children: Egypt, Law no. 10 of 1961, Articles 1-14, Penal Code no. 58 of 1937, Article 178, and Law no. 12 of 1996 (Child Law)*, October 22, 2006 [cited October 22, 2006]; available from <http://www.interpol.org/Public/Children/SexualAbuse/NationalLaws/csaEgypt.asp>. See also UN Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD), *Periodic Reports of States Parties: Egypt*, paras. 134. For currency conversion, see Oanda.com, *FXConverter*, [online] [cited July 5, 2005]; available from <http://www.oanda.com/convert/classic>.

¹⁴⁷⁸ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Egypt," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, London, 2004; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=942.

¹⁴⁷⁹ U.S. Embassy- Cairo, *reporting*, August 18, 2003. See also ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations (CEACR), "CEACR Comments".

¹⁴⁸⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Egypt," Section 6d.

involving child labor and intervene in such cases. The U.S. Department of State reports that the Government of Egypt has made modest efforts to prosecute trafficking cases.¹⁴⁸¹

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Government's National Council for Childhood and Motherhood (NCCM) continues to implement activities to combat the worst forms of child labor, among other goals.¹⁴⁸² The NCCM is collaborating with the MOMM, the Egyptian Trade Union Federation (ETUF), ILO, UNICEF, and the Ministries of Social Affairs, Agriculture, Education, Health, and Interior to implement action programs to reduce child labor.¹⁴⁸³ While the action programs began with technical support from ILO-IPEC, the NCCM, the ETUF, UNICEF, and the AFL-CIO Solidarity Center, the MOMM now operates the projects independently.¹⁴⁸⁴ With support from the EU and other donors, the NCCM is implementing a large-scale project addressing children's issues, with a focus on priority areas including child labor, street children, girls' education, and prevention of harmful practices against girls. The Egyptian Prime Minister earmarked 100 million Egyptian pounds (USD 17.5 million) in matching funds towards this initiative.¹⁴⁸⁵ The NCCM is also implementing projects in the governorates of Sharkia, Menofia, Minya, and Damietta to shift working children into non-hazardous activities and gradually eliminate all forms of child labor.¹⁴⁸⁶ The Government of Egypt is supporting the USD 5.09 million USDOL-funded UN WFP project to combat exploitive child labor through education. The project aims to withdraw 4,300 children and prevent 6,000 children from exploitive labor.¹⁴⁸⁷

The NCCM and MOMM are also collaborating with other line ministries and NGOs to increase awareness of child labor and strengthen enforcement of existing laws. The NCCM and the Ministry of Interior are training police officers to raise awareness of child rights and best practices for dealing with at-risk children and youth. The NCCM and MOMM are also working with the Ministry of Information on awareness-raising campaigns in all 26 governorates to highlight the negative impact of child labor on children, their families and their employers and to educate them about relevant legislation and enforcement issues.¹⁴⁸⁸ The MOMM is collaborating with the Ministry of Education to identify governorates with high dropout rates and has increased child labor inspection in those areas.¹⁴⁸⁹ The MOMM and the Ministry of Agriculture are cooperating to prevent underage children from working in the

¹⁴⁸¹ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Egypt."

¹⁴⁸² U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Egypt," Section 5, 6d.

¹⁴⁸³ U.S. Embassy- Cairo, *reporting*, September 1, 2004. See also U.S. Embassy - Cairo, *reporting*, Cairo, September 12, 2005. See also ILO-IPEC, *Gender, Education and Child Labour in Egypt*.

¹⁴⁸⁴ U.S. Embassy- Cairo, *reporting*, September 1, 2004. See also UNICEF Egypt, *Child Protection, Working Children: Issues and Impact*, [online] [cited October 22, 2006]; available from http://www.unicef.org/egypt/protection_147.html.

¹⁴⁸⁵ U.S. Embassy- Cairo, *reporting*, September 1, 2004. See also Ambassador Hussein El-Sadr, National Council for Childhood and Motherhood, interview with USDOL official, September 20, 2005.

¹⁴⁸⁶ U.S. Embassy- Cairo, *reporting*, March 2, 2005.

¹⁴⁸⁷ USDOL, *Combating Exploitive Child Labor through Education in Egypt*, ILAB Technical Cooperation Project Summary, Washington, DC.

¹⁴⁸⁸ U.S. Embassy - Cairo, *reporting*, September 12, 2005.

¹⁴⁸⁹ *Ibid.*

cotton sector and to provide children working legally with the necessary protection while they engage in agricultural activities.¹⁴⁹⁰

Since 2003, the NCCM and UNICEF have also been implementing the National Strategy for the Protection and Rehabilitation of Street Children (also launched under the auspices of the Egyptian first lady), which aims to rehabilitate and reintegrate street children into society.¹⁴⁹¹

¹⁴⁹⁰ U.S. Embassy- Cairo official, personal communication to USDOL official, May 26, 2005.

¹⁴⁹¹ UNICEF Egypt, *Working children: Issues and impact*.

El Salvador

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2003 in El Salvador, the majority of working children were found in the agricultural sector (51.2 percent), followed by services (35.3 percent), manufacturing (12.4 percent), and other sectors (1.1 percent).¹⁵⁰³ Most working children work in family-operated businesses without pay.¹⁵⁰⁴ Working is more common for children in rural areas than in urban areas, and among boys

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 2003:	10.2% ¹⁴⁹²
Minimum age for admission to work:	14 ¹⁴⁹³
Age to which education is compulsory:	15 ¹⁴⁹⁴
Free public education:	Yes* ¹⁴⁹⁵
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:	114% ¹⁴⁹⁶
Net primary enrollment rate in 2004:	92% ¹⁴⁹⁷
Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 2003:	80.4% ¹⁴⁹⁸
As of 2003 percentage of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	73% ¹⁴⁹⁹
Ratified Convention 138:	1/23/1996 ¹⁵⁰⁰
Ratified Convention 182:	10/12/2000 ¹⁵⁰¹
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Yes ¹⁵⁰²
*Must pay for school supplies and related items.	

¹⁴⁹² UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, October 7, 2005.

¹⁴⁹³ *Constitution of the Republic of El Salvador*, Title 2, Chapter 1, Section 2.

¹⁴⁹⁴ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *EFA Global Monitoring Report 2007: Strong Foundations*, Paris, 2007, page 268; available from <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0014/001477/147794E.pdf>.

¹⁴⁹⁵ *Constitution*, Articles 53-57. See also Government of El Salvador, *Plan Nacional 2006-2009 para la Erradicación de las Peores Formas de Trabajo Infantil*, Comité Nacional para la Erradicación de las Peores Formas de Trabajo Infantil, March 2006, 11; available from http://www.oit.org.pe/ipec/documentos/plan_nacional_es.pdf.

¹⁴⁹⁶ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

¹⁴⁹⁷ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Rate. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

¹⁴⁹⁸ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

¹⁴⁹⁹ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Survival Rate to Grade 5. Total*, accessed December 18, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

¹⁵⁰⁰ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, accessed October 19, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/newratframeE.htm>.

¹⁵⁰¹ *Ibid.*

¹⁵⁰² ILO, *IPEC Action Against Child Labor- Highlights 2006*, [online] February 2007 [cited March 29, 2007]; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ipec/prod/eng/20070228_Implementationreport_en_Web.pdf.

¹⁵⁰³ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

¹⁵⁰⁴ ILO-IPEC, *Supporting the Time-bound Programme for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour in El Salvador - Phase II*, project document, Geneva, September 30, 2006.

than among girls.¹⁵⁰⁵ Children work in sugar cane harvesting, fishing, and garbage scavenging.¹⁵⁰⁶ Some children work long hours as domestic servants in third-party homes.¹⁵⁰⁷

Commercial sexual exploitation and trafficking of children, especially girls, continues to be a problem.¹⁵⁰⁸ El Salvador is reported to be a transit point for girls trafficked to such places as Mexico, the United States, and neighboring Central American countries.¹⁵⁰⁹ Some children are also trafficked internally from rural areas to urban areas, port cities, and border regions for commercial sexual exploitation.¹⁵¹⁰ At-risk groups include girls, rural and poor children, uneducated adolescents, adolescent mothers and underage foreign females.¹⁵¹¹

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum age for employment at 14 years.¹⁵¹² Children 12 to 14 can be authorized to perform light work, as long as it does not harm their development or interfere with their education. There are also exceptions for artistic representations.¹⁵¹³ Children under 16 years are prohibited from working more than 6 hours per day or more than 34 hours per week, regardless of the type of work. Children under 18 are prohibited from working at night.¹⁵¹⁴

Forced labor is prohibited, except in cases specified by the law.¹⁵¹⁵ With parental consent, children between 16 and 18 years may volunteer for military service.¹⁵¹⁶ The law prohibits trafficking in persons.¹⁵¹⁷ Criminal penalties for trafficking range from 4 to 8 years of imprisonment, and increase by one-third if the victim is under 18 years.¹⁵¹⁸ The law provides for penalties of 8 to 12 years of imprisonment for the inducement, facilitation, or promotion of prostitution of a person younger than 18, and penalties of 6 to 12 years of imprisonment for the production or distribution of pornography involving minors.¹⁵¹⁹

¹⁵⁰⁵ ILO-IPEC, *Summary of the Results of the Child Labour Survey in El Salvador*, Geneva, July 2004; available from http://www.oit.org.pe/ippec/documentos/esa_sum.pdf. See also ILO-IPEC, *El Salvador TBP (II), project document*, 4.

¹⁵⁰⁶ ILO-IPEC, *El Salvador TBP (II), project document*.

¹⁵⁰⁷ Human Rights Watch, *Abuses Against Child Domestic Workers in El Salvador*, Vol. 16, No. 1 (B), January 2004, 13; available from <http://www.hrw.org/reports/2004/elsalvador0104/elsalvador0104.pdf>.

¹⁵⁰⁸ U.S. Department of State, "El Salvador," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Sections 5 and 6d; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/>.

¹⁵⁰⁹ *Ibid.*

¹⁵¹⁰ *Ibid.* See also U.S. Department of State, "El Salvador (Tier 2 Watch List)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/65988.htm>.

¹⁵¹¹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: El Salvador," Section 5.

¹⁵¹² Government of El Salvador, *Decreto No. 457*, (October 7, 2004), Article 114. See also *Constitution of El Salvador 1983*, Article 38, Part 10.

¹⁵¹³ *Decreto No. 457*, 114-115. See also Government of El Salvador, *Código de Trabajo*.

¹⁵¹⁴ *Decreto No. 457*, 116.

¹⁵¹⁵ *Constitution of El Salvador 1983*, Article 9. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: El Salvador," Section 6c.

¹⁵¹⁶ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "El Salvador," in *Global Report 2004*, London, 2004.

¹⁵¹⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: El Salvador," Section 5.

¹⁵¹⁸ *Ibid.*

¹⁵¹⁹ Government of El Salvador, *Decreto No. 210*, (November 25, 2003), Articles 169, 170 and 173. See also Government of El Salvador, *Código Penal*.

Enforcement of child labor laws is the responsibility of the Ministry of Labor.¹⁵²⁰ The U.S. Department of State reports that inspectors focus on the formal sector, where child labor is less frequent.¹⁵²¹ The Child Labor Unit of the Ministry of Labor was strengthened in 2006 to increase capacity to conduct inspections, through the hiring of additional technical and inspection officers.¹⁵²² The Ministry of Labor has 163 labor inspectors, including 24 who work specifically on child labor issues.¹⁵²³ During 2006, the Labor Ministry concentrated on monitoring and inspecting sugarcane plantations, resulting in the removal of 149 children from working in sugarcane.¹⁵²⁴ The National Committee Against Trafficking in Persons comprises 15 government agencies that are responsible for combating trafficking.¹⁵²⁵ In 2006, about 55 children were rescued from trafficking circumstances by Salvadoran authorities.¹⁵²⁶

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Government of El Salvador has launched a 2006-2009 National Plan for the Eradication of the Worst Forms of Child Labor, identifying the following as strategic areas of intervention: strengthening of the legal framework; strengthening of institutions; enhancement of educational interventions; provision of health care; provision of recreational, cultural, and sports activities; improving income generation; and strengthening of communication and awareness raising.¹⁵²⁷ The Government of El Salvador continues to participate in various USDOL-funded child labor projects implemented by ILO-IPEC. These include a USD 4 million Child Labor Education Initiative, which aims to prevent and withdraw children from exploitive labor through the provision of education services.¹⁵²⁸ Also, there is a USD 7.3 million project to support a National Timebound Program to eliminate the worst forms of child labor in fishing, sugar cane harvesting, commercial sexual exploitation, and garbage-dump scavenging, which entered its second phase in 2006.¹⁵²⁹ The two USDOL-funded projects, together, aim to withdraw 12,610 and prevent 26,388 children from exploitive child labor.¹⁵³⁰

The Government of El Salvador also participates in regional projects funded by USDOL. These include a USD 8.8 million regional project implemented by ILO-IPEC that seeks to withdraw 713 children and prevent 657 children from commercial sexual exploitation in the

¹⁵²⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: El Salvador," Section 6d.

¹⁵²¹ Ibid.

¹⁵²² ILO-IPEC, *Supporting the Time-bound Programme for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour in El Salvador*, technical progress report, Geneva, September 30, 2006, 11.

¹⁵²³ U.S. Embassy- San Salvador, *reporting*, December 18, 2006.

¹⁵²⁴ Ibid.

¹⁵²⁵ U.S. Embassy- San Salvador, *reporting*, March 5, 2007.

¹⁵²⁶ Ibid. See also Ambassador of El Salvador, Letter to USDOL official, January 8, 2007.

¹⁵²⁷ Government of El Salvador, *Plan Nacional*. See also ILO-IPEC, *El Salvador TBP*, technical progress report, September 2006.

¹⁵²⁸ ILO-IPEC, *El Salvador TBP (II)*, project document.

¹⁵²⁹ Ibid., 1, iii. See also ILO-IPEC, *Time-Bound Programme and Education Initiative*, Technical Progress Report, Geneva, September 30, 2006. See also U.S. Embassy- San Salvador, *reporting*, March 5, 2007.

¹⁵³⁰ ILO-IPEC, *El Salvador TBP (II)*, project document. See also ILO-IPEC, *ILO-IPEC GPRA Report: Number of Children Withdrawn/Prevented Projects Funded from FY2006*, Geneva, 2007.

region.¹⁵³¹ The government also participates in a USD 5.7 million Central America regional Child Labor Education Initiative project to strengthen government and civil society's capacity to reduce and prevent exploitive child labor through education. This project implemented by CARE-USA seeks to withdraw or prevent 2,984 children from exploitive child labor regionally.¹⁵³² With support from the Government of Italy, ILO-IPEC is also working with the Government of El Salvador and other governments of the region to complete a 4-year regional project to reduce the activities of children scavenging in garbage dumps.¹⁵³³

¹⁵³¹ ILO-IPEC, *Stop the Exploitation. Contribution to the Prevention and Elimination of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children in Central America, Panama, and the Dominican Republic*, technical progress report March 2005.

¹⁵³² CARE-USA, *APRENDO Project: Combating Exploitive Child Labor Through Education in Central America (Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua) and the Dominican Republic*, project document, August 16, 2004.

¹⁵³³ ILO-IPEC, *Ficha: Avances en la prevención y erradicación del trabajo infantil en El Salvador, 2006*, [online] 2006 [cited October 5, 2006]; available from http://www.oit.org.pe/spanish/260ameri/oitreg/activid/proyectos/ipecc/documentos/ficha_pais_esa.pdf. See also ILO-IPEC official, email communication to USDOL official, November 14, 2005.

Equatorial Guinea

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In Equatorial Guinea, children work on family farms and as market vendors in family businesses; there were also unconfirmed reports of foreign children working as market vendors in non-family businesses.¹⁵⁴³ Children from Benin, Nigeria, and Cameroon are trafficked predominantly into the commercial sector of Malabo and Bata.¹⁵⁴⁴ West African children were most vulnerable to trafficking by relatives or family acquaintances who required them to work in the agricultural sector in addition to the commercial sector.¹⁵⁴⁵ Girls are trafficked to Equatorial Guinea from Togo, Nigeria, and China for commercial sexual exploitation, while other children work as farmhands, street vendors and household servants.¹⁵⁴⁶

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children ages 5-14 estimated as working:	Unavailable
Minimum age for admission to work:	14 ¹⁵³⁴
Age to which education is compulsory:	11 ¹⁵³⁵
Free public education:	Yes ^{1536*}
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2002:	127% ¹⁵³⁷
Net primary enrollment rate in 2002:	85% ¹⁵³⁸
Percent of children 5-14 attending school:	Unavailable
As of 2001, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	33% ¹⁵³⁹
Ratified Convention 138:	6/12/1985 ¹⁵⁴⁰
Ratified Convention 182:	8/13/2001 ¹⁵⁴¹
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Yes, associated ¹⁵⁴²
*Must pay for school supplies and related items.	

¹⁵³⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Equatorial Guinea," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78732.htm>, Section 6d.

¹⁵³⁵ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Ending Age of Compulsory Education. Primary. Total*, accessed June 8, 2007; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

¹⁵³⁶ *Constitution of the Republic of Equatorial Guinea*, (January 17, 1995); available from http://www.ceiba-guinea-ecuatorial.org/guineeangl/nvelle_const.htm. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Equatorial Guinea." Section 5.

¹⁵³⁷ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

¹⁵³⁸ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Rate. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

¹⁵³⁹ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Survival Rate to Grade 5. Total*, accessed December 18, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

¹⁵⁴⁰ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, [online], accessed October 20, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/docs/declworld.htm>. See also FXConverter, [online] 2005 [cited May 17, 2005]; available from <http://www.carosta.de/frames/convert.htm>.

¹⁵⁴¹ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*.

¹⁵⁴² Ibid.

¹⁵⁴³ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Equatorial Guinea." Section 6d.

¹⁵⁴⁴ Ibid.

¹⁵⁴⁵ U.S. Embassy- Malabo, *reporting*, March 02, 2007.

¹⁵⁴⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Equatorial Guinea (Tier 2 Watch List)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/65988.htm>.

Child Labor Law and Enforcement

The minimum age for employment is 14 years.¹⁵⁴⁷ Children under 16 years are prohibited from work that might harm their health, safety, or morals.¹⁵⁴⁸

A government decree bans all children under the age of 16 years from being on the streets after 11 p.m. The decree forbids parents or tutors from exploiting children in labor such as street vending, car washing, or working in bars or restaurants. Under the decree, youth found in the above situations will be automatically arrested, and businesses that employ minors, including family businesses, will be sanctioned.¹⁵⁴⁹ The U.S. Department of State reports that the Ministry of Labor does not enforce the child labor laws effectively.¹⁵⁵⁰

Forced or compulsory child labor is forbidden.¹⁵⁵¹ The law prohibits the smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons,¹⁵⁵² but the government did not conduct any arrests or prosecutions. Law enforcement officials have not received training on trafficking issues and have not investigated any trafficking cases.¹⁵⁵³

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

In February 2006, Equatorial Guinea adopted a 5-year National Plan of Action on Trafficking. The government conducted several activities to raise awareness, including a radio campaign to about the trafficking law.¹⁵⁵⁴

¹⁵⁴⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Equatorial Guinea." Section 6d.

¹⁵⁴⁸ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, London, March 2005; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=770.

¹⁵⁴⁹ U.S. Embassy- Yaounde, *reporting*, November 16, 2005.

¹⁵⁵⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Equatorial Guinea." Section 6d.

¹⁵⁵¹ *Ibid.* Section 6c.

¹⁵⁵² UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Consideration of Reports Submitted by States Parties Under Article 44 of the Convention*, Initial reports of States parties due in 1994, CRC/C/11/Add.26, United Nations, Geneva, September 12, 2003; available from [http://www.unhchr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/898586b1dc7b4043c1256a450044f331/d53df7529775b260c1256f2000565994/\\$FILE/G0444306.doc](http://www.unhchr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/898586b1dc7b4043c1256a450044f331/d53df7529775b260c1256f2000565994/$FILE/G0444306.doc). See also U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Equatorial Guinea."

¹⁵⁵³ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Equatorial Guinea." See also U.S. Embassy- Yaounde, *reporting*, November 16, 2005.

¹⁵⁵⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Equatorial Guinea." See also U.S. Embassy- Yaounde official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, May 26, 2006.

Eritrea

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In Eritrea, children work on the street, in the agricultural sector, and as domestic servants.¹⁵⁶⁴ Children living in rural areas often work in family businesses, including subsistence farming, and engage in such activities as fetching firewood and water, and herding livestock. Children are expected to work from about age 5 by looking after livestock and working in the fields.¹⁵⁶⁵ For children working in urban

areas street vending is typical, however this is not widely prevalent.¹⁵⁶⁶ Many underage apprentices work in shops and workshops such as garages or metal workshops in towns.¹⁵⁶⁷

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working:	Unavailable
Minimum age of work:	14 ¹⁵⁵⁵
Age to which education is compulsory:	Grade 7 ¹⁵⁵⁶
Free public education:	Yes ^{1557*}
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2002:	63% ¹⁵⁵⁸
Net primary enrollment rate in 2002:	45% ¹⁵⁵⁹
Percent of children 5-14 attending school:	Unavailable
As of 2001, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	86% ¹⁵⁶⁰
Ratified Convention 138:	2/22/2000 ¹⁵⁶¹
Ratified Convention 182:	No ¹⁵⁶²
ILO-IPEC participating country:	No ¹⁵⁶³
* Must pay for school supplies and related items.	

¹⁵⁵⁵ ILO Committee of Experts, *Direct Request, Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138) Eritrea (ratification:2000)*, [online] 2004 [cited October 20, 2006]; available from <http://webfusion.ilo.org/public/db/standards/normes/appl/index.cfm?lang=EN>.

¹⁵⁵⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Eritrea," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006* Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006>.

¹⁵⁵⁷ Ibid.

¹⁵⁵⁸ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

¹⁵⁵⁹ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

¹⁵⁶⁰ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Survival Rates to Grade 5. Total*, accessed December 18, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

¹⁵⁶¹ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, accessed October 20, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/newratframeE.htm>.

¹⁵⁶² Ibid.

¹⁵⁶³ ILO, *IPEC Action Against Child Labour: Highlights 2006*, Geneva, February 2007; available from <http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/public/english/standards/ipec/doc-view.cfm?id=3159>.

¹⁵⁶⁴ UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Consideration of Reports Submitted by States Parties under Article 44 of the Convention, Concluding Observations: Eritrea, CRC/C/15/Add.204*, United Nations, Geneva, June 6, 2003, para 55; available from [http://www.unhcr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/\(Symbol\)/CRC.C.15.Add.204.En?OpenDocument](http://www.unhcr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/(Symbol)/CRC.C.15.Add.204.En?OpenDocument). See also ILO Committee of Experts, *Direct Request, Minimum Age Convention*.

¹⁵⁶⁵ ILO Committee of Experts, *Direct Request, Minimum Age Convention*.

¹⁵⁶⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Eritrea," Section 6d.

¹⁵⁶⁷ ILO Committee of Experts, *Direct Request, Minimum Age Convention*.

Children are reportedly involved in prostitution.¹⁵⁶⁸ However, specific data on the commercial sexual exploitation of children in Eritrea is lacking.¹⁵⁶⁹

Although the law prohibits recruitment of children under 18 into the armed forces, concerns exist regarding the training and recruiting of children for military service.¹⁵⁷⁰ The government requires all secondary school students to complete their final year of education at a location adjacent to the Sawa military training facility in order to graduate, regardless of age.¹⁵⁷¹ In addition to not qualifying for graduation, students who do not attend this final year of secondary education cannot sit for examinations to be eligible for advanced education.¹⁵⁷² There is concern that this school is under the authority of the military; at least one official stated that the students are considered members of the armed forces.¹⁵⁷³ According to the U.S. Department of State, students attend the Sawa military training camp and undergo military training during their final year of secondary school.¹⁵⁷⁴

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

Eritrean law sets the minimum age of employment and apprenticeship at 14 years.¹⁵⁷⁵ Young persons between 14 and 18 may not work between the hours of 6 p.m. and 6 a.m. or more than 7 hours per day.¹⁵⁷⁶ Children under 18 years are not permitted to work jobs that have been specified as dangerous or unhealthy, including jobs that involve heavy lifting, contact with toxic chemicals, underground work, commercial sexual exploitation, the transport industry, dangerous machines, or exposure to electrical hazards.¹⁵⁷⁷

The recruitment of children under 18 years into the armed forces is prohibited.¹⁵⁷⁸ Child prostitution, pornography, and sexual exploitation are criminal offenses. Trafficking in persons is prohibited.¹⁵⁷⁹

¹⁵⁶⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Eritrea," Section 5.

¹⁵⁶⁹ UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Consideration of Reports under Article 44 - Concluding Observations*, para 57.

¹⁵⁷⁰ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Eritrea," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, London, 2004.

¹⁵⁷¹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Eritrea," Section 5. See also Amnesty International, *Eritrea: 'You Have No Right to Ask' - Government Resists Scrutiny on Human Rights*, AFR 64/003/2004, Amnesty International, London, May 2004.

¹⁵⁷² U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Eritrea," Section 5.

¹⁵⁷³ Amnesty International, *You Have No Right to Ask*, 25. See also Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Global Report 2004." See also Human Rights Watch, *Essential Background: Overview of Human Rights Issues in Eritrea*, Human Rights Watch, Washington, D.C., January 2004; available from <http://hrw.org/english/docs/2004/01/21/eritre6987.htm>.

¹⁵⁷⁴ U.S. Embassy- Asmara, *reporting*, September 8, 2005.

¹⁵⁷⁵ ILO Committee of Experts, *Direct Request, Minimum Age Convention*. See also UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Addendum: Eritrea*, CRC/C/41/Add.12, United Nations, Geneva, December 23, 2002, para 68, 422; available from

[http://www.unhchr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/898586b1dc7b4043c1256a450044f331/8a52da90a06e49e7c1256ce000307fc9/\\$FILE/G0246422.pdf](http://www.unhchr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/898586b1dc7b4043c1256a450044f331/8a52da90a06e49e7c1256ce000307fc9/$FILE/G0246422.pdf). U.S. Embassy- Asmara, *reporting*, September 8, 2005.

¹⁵⁷⁶ UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Addendum: Eritrea*, para 68.

¹⁵⁷⁷ *Ibid.* See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Eritrea," Section 6d.

¹⁵⁷⁸ UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Addendum: Eritrea*, para 88.

¹⁵⁷⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Eritrea," Section 5.

The Ministry of Labor and Human Welfare (MLHW) is responsible for enforcing child labor laws, but according to the U.S. Department of State, inspections are infrequent¹⁵⁸⁰ because of the ministry's finite resources.¹⁵⁸¹ Legal remedies available to the labor ministry include criminal penalties, fines, and court orders.¹⁵⁸² As of 2004, the most recent year for which information is available, no labor inspection reports had referred to cases of child labor.¹⁵⁸³

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Government of Eritrea is implementing a national plan of action on child labor that primarily focuses on integrating or reintegrating children with families, communities, and schools as a means of preventing or rehabilitating children engaged in child labor.¹⁵⁸⁴ The MLHW works with children at-risk of entry into work by providing a small subsidy to their families to help with food and clothing, as well as counseling services to help children reintegrate into their nuclear or extended families.¹⁵⁸⁵ At-risk children are also enrolled or reenrolled at local schools, and the MLHW tracks their development through local committees or ministry employees.¹⁵⁸⁶ Additionally, the government provides school-aged street children with allowances to purchase uniforms and books necessary for school participation. Street children who are no longer of school age are provided with private vocational training designed to reintegrate them into the community.¹⁵⁸⁷

Through state media, the government routinely provides information on its strategy and obligations under the Convention on the Rights of the Child, and has focused on the issue of child labor, in particular commercial sexual exploitation, in awareness-raising campaigns for the general public.¹⁵⁸⁸ Officials charged with enforcing child labor laws have received training.¹⁵⁸⁹

¹⁵⁸⁰ Ibid., Section 6d. See also UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Consideration of Reports Submitted by States Parties under Article 44 of the Convention, Initial reports of States parties due in 1996: Addendum, Eritrea*, CRC/C/41/Add.12, United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child, New York, December 23, 2002, para 422.

¹⁵⁸¹ U.S. Embassy- Asmara, *reporting, September 8, 2005*.

¹⁵⁸² Ibid.

¹⁵⁸³ ILO Committee of Experts, *Direct Request, Minimum Age Convention*.

¹⁵⁸⁴ U.S. Embassy- Asmara, *reporting, September 8, 2005*.

¹⁵⁸⁵ Ibid.

¹⁵⁸⁶ Ibid.

¹⁵⁸⁷ UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Summary Record of the 866th Meeting (Thirty-third Session) - Consideration of Reports of States Parties (Continued), Initial Report of Eritrea (Continued)*, CRC/C/SR.866, United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child, New York, June 2, 2003, para 77. See also U.S. Embassy- Asmara, *reporting, September 8, 2005*.

¹⁵⁸⁸ U.S. Embassy- Asmara, *reporting, September 8, 2005*.

¹⁵⁸⁹ Ibid.

Ethiopia

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2005, approximately 58.1 percent of boys and 41.6 percent of girls ages 5 to 14 were working in Ethiopia. The majority of working children were found in the agricultural sector (95.2 percent), followed by services (3.4 percent), manufacturing (1.3 percent),

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 2005:	50.1% ¹⁵⁹⁰
Minimum age of work:	14 ¹⁵⁹¹
Age to which education is compulsory:	Not compulsory ¹⁵⁹²
Free public education:	Yes ^{1593*}
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2005:	93% ¹⁵⁹⁴
Net primary enrollment rate in 2005:	56% ¹⁵⁹⁵
Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 2005:	29.2% ¹⁵⁹⁶
Percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	Unavailable
Ratified Convention 138:	5/27/1999 ¹⁵⁹⁷
Ratified Convention 182:	9/2/2003 ¹⁵⁹⁸
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Yes, associated ¹⁵⁹⁹
*Must pay for school supplies and related items.	

¹⁵⁹⁰ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, March 1, 2007.

¹⁵⁹¹ Government of Ethiopia, *Labour Proclamation No. 42/1993*, (January 20, 1993), Chapter II. Working Conditions of Young Workers, Section 89, Article 2; available from <http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/docs/WEBTEXT/31977.64870/E93ETH10.htm>. See also U.S. Department of State, "Ethiopia," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78734.htm>.

¹⁵⁹² UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Third Periodic Report of States Parties Due in 2003: Ethiopia*, CRC/C/129/Add.8, prepared by Government of Ethiopia, pursuant to Article 44 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, April 27, 2005, para 183; available from [http://www.unhchr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/\(Symbol\)/512c282017f34921c12570b2003f5410?Opendocument](http://www.unhchr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/(Symbol)/512c282017f34921c12570b2003f5410?Opendocument). See also UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Consideration of Reports Submitted by States Parties under Article 44 of the Convention, Concluding Observations: Ethiopia*, CRC/C/ETH/CO/3, Geneva, November 1, 2006, Section 6, Item 63; available from [http://www.unhchr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/\(Symbol\)/426c8f0ecdb895f1c125724300541453?Opendocument](http://www.unhchr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/(Symbol)/426c8f0ecdb895f1c125724300541453?Opendocument).

¹⁵⁹³ UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Third Periodic Report of States Parties Due in 2003: Ethiopia*, para. 183. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Ethiopia," Section 5. See also UNGEI, *The School Fee Abolition Initiative (SFAI)*, [online] 2006 [cited April 2, 2007]; available from http://www.ungei.org/infobycountry/247_712.html. See also Andrew Heavens, *In Ethiopia, Better Education for a Better Future*, online, UNICEF, June 15, 2006; available from http://www.unicef.org/infobycountry/ethiopia_34570.html?q=printme.

¹⁵⁹⁴ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

¹⁵⁹⁵ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Rate. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

¹⁵⁹⁶ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

¹⁵⁹⁷ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, accessed October 8, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/newratframeE.htm>.

¹⁵⁹⁸ Ibid.

¹⁵⁹⁹ ILO, *IPEC Action Against Child Labour: Highlights 2006*, Geneva, 2006, 30; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ippec/prod/eng/20070228_Implementationreport_en_Web.pdf.

and other sectors (0.2 percent).¹⁶⁰⁰ The number of working children is higher in the Amhara, Oromiya, Southern Nation, Nationalities and Peoples (SNNPR) and Tigray regions compared with other regions.¹⁶⁰¹ Most children in Ethiopia work for their families without pay.¹⁶⁰² In both rural and urban areas, children often begin working at young ages, with many starting work at 5.¹⁶⁰³ In rural areas, children work in agriculture on commercial and family farms, and in domestic service.¹⁶⁰⁴ Children in rural areas, especially boys, engage in activities such as cattle herding, petty trading, plowing, harvesting and weeding, while other children, mostly girls, collect firewood and water.¹⁶⁰⁵ In urban areas, many children, including orphans, work in domestic service.¹⁶⁰⁶ Child domestic workers work long hours, which may prevent them from attending school regularly. Many feel unable to quit their jobs and fear physical, verbal, and sexual abuse from their employers while performing their work.¹⁶⁰⁷ Children in urban areas work in construction, manufacturing,¹⁶⁰⁸ shining shoes, making clothes, portering, directing customers into taxis, petty trading, and herding animals.¹⁶⁰⁹ Estimates of the population of street children vary, with the government estimating it to be between 150,000 and 200,000 for the whole country, and UNICEF estimating it to be 600,000 children. In the capital city of Addis Ababa alone, there are an estimated 50,000 to 60,000 street children according to the government, and 100,000 according to UNICEF. Some of these children work in the informal sector in order to survive.¹⁶¹⁰

¹⁶⁰⁰ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

¹⁶⁰¹ Tassew Woldehanna, Bekele Tefera, Nicola Jones, and Alebel Bayrau, *Child Labour, Gender Inequality and Rural/Urban Disparities: How Can Ethiopia's National Development Strategies be Revised to Address Negative Spill-over Impacts on Child Education and Wellbeing?*, Working Paper No. 20, London, 2005, 15-17; available from <http://www.savethechildren.org/uk/younglives/data/publications/pdfs/WP20Labour.pdf>

¹⁶⁰² Lorenzo Guarcello, Scott Lyon, and Furio Camillo Rosati, *The Twin Challenges of Child Labor and Youth Employment in Ethiopia*, Understanding Children's Work Rome, July 2006, 9; available from <http://www.ucw-project.org/pdf/publications/Youthethiopia.pdf>. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Ethiopia," Section 6d.

¹⁶⁰³ Tassew Woldehanna, Bekele Tefera, Nicola Jones, and Alebel Bayrau, *Child Labour, Gender Inequality and Rural/Urban Disparities: Ethiopia*, 15-17. See also Lorenzo Guarcello, Scott Lyon, and Furio Camillo Rosati, *The Twin Challenges of Child Labor and Youth Employment in Ethiopia*, 6.

¹⁶⁰⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Ethiopia," Section 6d.

¹⁶⁰⁵ Tassew Woldehanna, Bekele Tefera, Nicola Jones, and Alebel Bayrau, *Child Labour, Gender Inequality and Rural/Urban Disparities: Ethiopia*, 15-17, 30. See also Sonia Bhalotra, *Child Labour in Africa*, OECD Social, Employment and Migration Working Papers, OECD, Paris, April 28, 2003, 48-49; available from <http://www.oecd.org/cataoecd/28/21/2955692.pdf>. See also Lorenzo Guarcello, Scott Lyon, and Furio Camillo Rosati, *The Twin Challenges of Child Labor and Youth Employment in Ethiopia*, 6-7.

¹⁶⁰⁶ Abiy Kifle, *Ethiopia- Child Domestic Workers in Addis Ababa: A Rapid Assessment*, ILO-IPEC, Geneva, July 2002, 18-19, 22, 55; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ippec/prod/eng/2002_ra_38_et_domestic_en.pdf. See also Integrated Regional Information Networks, "Ethiopia: Child Domestic Work Rampant in Addis Ababa", IRINnews.org, [online], June 16, 2004 [cited April 3, 2007]; available from <http://www.irinnews.org/Report.aspx?ReportId=50255>.

¹⁶⁰⁷ Kifle, *Rapid Assessment of Child Domestic Workers in Addis Ababa*, 18-19, 22. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Ethiopia," Section 6d.

¹⁶⁰⁸ Lorenzo Guarcello, Scott Lyon, and Furio Camillo Rosati, *The Twin Challenges of Child Labor and Youth Employment in Ethiopia*, 11.

¹⁶⁰⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Ethiopia," Section 6d.

¹⁶¹⁰ *Ibid.*, Section 5.

In 2006, various regions of Ethiopia were affected by floods and drought. The drought in Ethiopia's Somali region has caused many children to drop out of school and start working.¹⁶¹¹

The commercial sexual exploitation of children is increasing in Ethiopia, particularly in urban areas.¹⁶¹² Young girls, some as young as 11, have reportedly been recruited to work in brothels, where they are sought by customers who believe them to be free of sexually transmitted infections.¹⁶¹³ Girls are also exploited as prostitutes in hotels, bars, resort towns and rural truck stops. Reports indicate that some young girls have been forced into prostitution by their family members.¹⁶¹⁴

Within Ethiopia, children are trafficked from rural to urban areas for domestic service, commercial sexual exploitation, and forced labor in street vending and other activities.¹⁶¹⁵ Reports indicate that children have been trafficked from Oromiya and SNNPR to other regions of the country for forced or bonded labor in domestic service.¹⁶¹⁶

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum age for employment at 14 years.¹⁶¹⁷ The law forbids employers to employ "young workers," defined as children 14 to 18 years, when the nature of the job or the conditions under which it is carried out might endanger the life or health of a child. Prohibited activities include transporting goods by air, land, or sea; working with electric power generation plants; and performing underground work.¹⁶¹⁸ Young workers are prohibited from working more than 7 hours per day, between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m., during weekly rest days, and on public holidays.¹⁶¹⁹

The law states that children have the right to be protected against exploitive practices and work conditions and should not engage in employment that could threaten their health,

¹⁶¹¹ Andrew Heavens, *Resources Needed to Help Children and Families Cope with Ethiopia Floods*, UNICEF, September 11, 2006; available from http://www.unicef.org/infobycountry/ethiopia_35693.html?q=printme. See also Andrew Heavens, *In Ethiopia, Schools Empty as Effects of Drought Wear On*, UNICEF, June 29, 2006; available from http://www.unicef.org/infobycountry/ethiopia_34733.html?q=printme.

¹⁶¹² U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Ethiopia," Section 5. See also Addis Ababa City Administrative Social and NGO Affairs Office, Save the Children Denmark, and ANPPCAN-Ethiopia Chapter, *Study on the Worst Forms of Child Labour With Special Focus on Child Prostitution- in Addis Ababa*, Addis Ababa, June 2003; available from http://www.redbarnet.dk/Files/Filer/sexuelt_misbrug/ChildProstitutionStudy.doc. See also ECPAT International CSEC Database, *Ethiopia*, accessed October 7, 2006; available from <http://www.ecpat.net>.

¹⁶¹³ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Ethiopia," Section 5.

¹⁶¹⁴ *Ibid.*

¹⁶¹⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Ethiopia (Tier 2)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/>. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Ethiopia," Section 5. See also Alisha Ryu, *Ethiopian Children Easy Prey for Child Traffickers*, Voice of America (VOA), Addis Ababa, May 26, 2005; available from <http://www.reliefweb.int/rw/RWB.NSF/db900SID/VBOL-6CSC3Y?OpenDocument>.

¹⁶¹⁶ *Ibid.*, Section 6d.

¹⁶¹⁷ Government of Ethiopia, *Negarit Gazeta of the Transitional Government of Ethiopia*, Chapter II. Working Conditions of Young Workers, Section 89, Article 1.

¹⁶¹⁸ *Ibid.*, Chapter II. Working Conditions of Young Workers, Section 89, Articles 1, 3-5.

¹⁶¹⁹ *Ibid.*, Chapter II. Working Conditions of Young Workers, Sections 90 and 91.

education, or well-being.¹⁶²⁰ Most forms of human trafficking have been criminalized under the new penal code;¹⁶²¹ the trafficking of women and children carries a penalty of up to 20 years of imprisonment and a fine.¹⁶²² The law also prohibits the compulsory or forced labor of children.¹⁶²³ The minimum age for conscription and voluntary recruitment into the military is 18 years.¹⁶²⁴

The Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs (MOLSA) is charged with the enforcement of child labor laws, but, according to the U.S. Department of State, the MOLSA's efforts to provide oversight and resources have been inadequate. Some efforts have been made to enforce child labor laws in the formal industrial sector; however, this was not where most child labor occurred in the country.¹⁶²⁵

The MOLSA, in collaboration with local police, is responsible for monitoring trafficking. The Ministry of Justice is responsible for enforcing laws related to trafficking. In July 2006, the government convicted and sentenced a trafficker to 13 years in prison and imposed a fine.¹⁶²⁶

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

In 2006, the MOLSA conducted a national workshop and established a committee to develop a national child labor policy.¹⁶²⁷

Ethiopia is one of four countries participating in the 4-year, USD 14.5 million Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, and Ethiopia Together (KURET) project, funded by USDOL and implemented by World Vision in partnership with the International Rescue Committee and the Academy for Educational Development. The KURET Project aims to withdraw or prevent a total of 30,600 children from exploitive labor in HIV/AIDS-affected areas of these four countries through the provision of educational services.¹⁶²⁸ In 2006, the government indicated its support for KURET's Alternative Basic Education (ABE) centers by committing to pay part of their staffing costs.¹⁶²⁹ Ethiopia also participates in the 5-year USDOL-funded Reducing Child Labor through Education (CIRCLE 1) global project being implemented by Winrock International

¹⁶²⁰ Government of Ethiopia, *The Constitution of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia*, Article 36; available from <http://www.ethiopianembassy.org/constitution.pdf>.

¹⁶²¹ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Ethiopia."

¹⁶²² U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Ethiopia," Section 5.

¹⁶²³ *Ibid.*, Section 6c.

¹⁶²⁴ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Ethiopia." In *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, London, 2004; available from <http://www.child-soldiers.org/resources/global-report>.

¹⁶²⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Ethiopia," Section 6d.

¹⁶²⁶ *Ibid.*, Section 5.

¹⁶²⁷ World Vision, *KURET (Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, Ethiopia Together) Initiative*, technical progress report, March 2006, 11.

¹⁶²⁸ World Vision, *Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, and Ethiopia Together (KURET) Initiative*, project document, July 18, 2005.

¹⁶²⁹ World Vision, *KURET (Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, and Ethiopia Together) Initiative*, technical progress report, September 30, 2006, 9.

through 2007, which aims to reduce exploitive child labor through the provision of educational opportunities.¹⁶³⁰

In 2006, the IOM trained judges, prosecutors, and police officers on trafficking.¹⁶³¹ The government undertook efforts to combat trafficking, including a program to raise public awareness on the dangers of migrating to the Middle East, consulting with the IOM, showing videos on the perils of human trafficking to passport applicants, and inspecting the employment contracts of prospective domestic workers who wanted to work overseas.¹⁶³² In Addis Ababa police stations, NGOs operated child protection units, which referred children who had been rescued from trafficking to an NGO for care pending their return home. The child protection units also collected data on rescued children to facilitate their reunification with their families.¹⁶³³ A USAID-funded center in Addis Ababa provides shelter, medical care, counseling, and reintegration assistance to girls victimized by trafficking.¹⁶³⁴ NGOs, such as the Forum on Street Children-Ethiopia, provided assistance to children engaged in commercial sexual exploitation, including such services as a drop-in center, shelter, educational services, skills training, guidance, assistance with income-generating and employment activities, and family reunification services. Such assistance often accompanies interaction with the government in order to develop long-term policy and program objectives.¹⁶³⁵

¹⁶³⁰ Winrock International, *Project Fact Sheet: Scholarships for African Girls*, [online] n.d. [cited October 13, 2006]; available from <http://www.winrock.org/fact/facts.asp?CC=5544&bu=>.

¹⁶³¹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Ethiopia," Section 5.

¹⁶³² Ibid. See also U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Ethiopia."

¹⁶³³ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Ethiopia."

¹⁶³⁴ Integrated Regional Information Networks, "Ethiopia: Centre for Helping Victims of Trafficking Opens", IRINnews.org, [online], June 29, 2004 [cited January 31, 2007]; available from <http://www.irinnews.org/print.asp?ReportID=41909>. See also ECPAT International, *The First-ever Centre to Help Victims of Trafficking Opened in the Ethiopian Capital, Addis Ababa, on Tuesday*, Addis Ababa, June 29, 2004; available from http://www.ecpat.net/eng/Ecpat_inter/IRC/tmpNews.asp?SCID=1446.

¹⁶³⁵ ECPAT International, *Annual Report 2004-2005*, Bangkok; available from http://www.ecpat.net/eng/Ecpat_inter/annual_report/index.asp. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Ethiopia," Section 5.

Fiji

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Children work in agriculture in Fiji, including in the tobacco sector.¹⁶⁴⁵ Children also work in the informal sector, in family businesses, and on the streets. Children shine shoes, repair cars, and work as domestics in homes.¹⁶⁴⁶ Children are sexually exploited through prostitution, pornography, and child sex tourism.¹⁶⁴⁷

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working:	Unavailable
Minimum age for admission to work:	15 ¹⁶³⁶
Age to which education is compulsory:	15 ¹⁶³⁷
Free public education:	Yes ^{1638*}
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:	106% ¹⁶³⁹
Net primary enrollment rate in 2004:	96% ¹⁶⁴⁰
Percent of children 5-14 attending school:	Unavailable
As of 2003, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	99% ¹⁶⁴¹
Ratified Convention 138:	1/3/2003 ¹⁶⁴²
Ratified Convention 182:	4/17/2002 ¹⁶⁴³
ILO-IPEC participating country:	No ¹⁶⁴⁴
*Must pay for school supplies and related items.	

¹⁶³⁶ Government of Fiji, *Employment Ordinance*, (1978).

¹⁶³⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Fiji," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78773.htm>.

¹⁶³⁸ UN Commission on Human Rights, *Rights of the Child: Report of the Special Rapporteur on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography; Addendum, Report on the Mission of the Special Rapporteur to the Republic of Fiji on the Issue of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (October 11-16, 1999)*, E/CN.4/2000/73/Add.3, Geneva, December 27, 1999, 10; available from <http://www.hri.ca/fortherecord2000/documentation/commission/e-cn4-2000-73-add3.htm>. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Fiji," Section 5.

¹⁶³⁹ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, March 1, 2007.

¹⁶⁴⁰ Ibid.

¹⁶⁴¹ Ibid.

¹⁶⁴² APPLIS, *List of Ratifications of International Labour Conventions: Fiji*, accessed October 16, 2006; available from <http://webfusion.ilo.org/public/db/standards/normes/appl/appl-byCtry.cfm?CTYCHOICE=2080&hdroff=1&lang=EN>.

¹⁶⁴³ Ibid.

¹⁶⁴⁴ ILO, *IPEC Action Against Child Labour: Highlights 2006*, Geneva, October 2006, 29; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ippec/prod/eng/20061018_Implementationreport_eng.pdf.

¹⁶⁴⁵ Farm Consultancy Services, *Child Labour in the Fiji Tobacco Industry*, Geneva, September 21, 2004, 2, 17-19; available from <http://www.eclt.org/filestore/BAT-%20Fiji.pdf>. See also End Child Labor, *Child Labor Information Bank: Fiji*, [online] n.d. [cited October 16, 2006]; available from http://www.endchildlabor.org/db_infoBank.cfm.

¹⁶⁴⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Fiji," Section 6d. See also End Child Labor, *Child Labor Information Bank*. See also U.S. Department of State, "Fiji," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2004*, Washington, DC, February 28, 2005, Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2004/41642.htm>.

¹⁶⁴⁷ Save the Children Fiji, *The Commercial Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse of Children in Fiji: A Situational Analysis*, 2006, 15-20. See also ECPAT International CSEC Database, *Fiji* accessed October 16, 2006; available from www.ecpat.net. See also U.S. Embassy- Suva, *reporting*, March 2, 2007.

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum age for work at 15 years.¹⁶⁴⁸ The law states that no child under 12 years shall be employed in any capacity whatsoever and sets guidelines for the employment of “children”, defined as 12 to 15, and “young persons”, defined as 15 to 18. Children may not work more than 6 hours a day, and young persons more than 8 hours a day. Children may not work in any industrial undertaking, and neither children nor young persons may be employed in dangerous working conditions or during the night.¹⁶⁴⁹

The Constitution prohibits forced labor.¹⁶⁵⁰ The law also prohibits the forcible procurement of women and girls into prostitution within and outside the borders of Fiji, as well as the sale, purchase, or hiring of minors less than 16 years for prostitution, illicit sexual intercourse or any unlawful immoral purpose. It also prohibits the production and possession of obscene materials depicting both adults and children. Penalties for those violating these statutes range from 2 to 5 years of imprisonment, with the possibility of corporal punishment.¹⁶⁵¹ Currently, there is no law on the minimum age of conscription into the military. The minimum age for voluntary military service is 18 years.¹⁶⁵² The law criminalizes trafficking in persons, and violators can be punished with a maximum sentence of 20 years in prison, as well as fines.¹⁶⁵³ The U.S. Department of State has reported that the country’s child labor laws and enforcement mechanisms are insufficient because of the lack of a comprehensive child labor policy and of resources to investigate reports of child labor.¹⁶⁵⁴

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

Fiji has a committee with a broad range of members, including the Ministry of Labor, the Ministry of Women, the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Information, the Fiji Police Force, employers’ and workers’ organizations, the ILO, and UNICEF to focus on the elimination of the worst forms of child labor. The committee aims to develop awareness-raising programs to address child labor issues; it carried out an awareness-raising campaign leading up to the June 2006 World Day Against Child Labor.¹⁶⁵⁵

¹⁶⁴⁸ Government of Fiji, *Employment Ordinance*, Article 2. See also APPLIS, *List of Ratifications of International Labour Conventions: Fiji*.

¹⁶⁴⁹ Government of Fiji, *Employment Ordinance*, Articles 59-71. See also Government of Fiji, *Employment Amendment Act*, No. 6, (June 1996), Article 65.

¹⁶⁵⁰ Government of Fiji, *Fiji Constitution*, (1988), Section 24.

¹⁶⁵¹ Government of Fiji, *Penal Code*, (1978), Sections 157-163, 188.

¹⁶⁵² Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, “Fiji,” in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, 2004.

¹⁶⁵³ ILO NATLEX National Labor Law Database, *Immigration Act 2003*, No. 17 accessed October 17, 2006; available from

http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/natlex_browse.details?p_lang=en&p_country=FJI&p_classification=17&p_origin=SUBJECT. See also U.S. Embassy- Suva, *reporting, March 2, 2007*.

¹⁶⁵⁴ U.S. Department of State, “Country Reports- 2006: Fiji,” Section 6d.

¹⁶⁵⁵ Global March Against Child Labour, *Plans to Stamp Out Child Labour*, [online] May 4, 2006 [cited January 7, 2007]; available from <http://www.globalmarch.org/clns/clns-may-2006-details.php3#4-3>. See also ILO, *Commemoration of the World Day Against Child Labour*, June 12, 2004; available from http://www.ilo.org/public/english/standards/ipecc/themes/domestic/download/wdacl_fiji_090704.pdf. See

Gabon

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Child labor and human trafficking are closely related in Gabon.¹⁶⁶⁵ Children are trafficked into the country from Benin, Guinea, Nigeria, Mali, and Togo, and to a lesser extent from Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Liberia, and Sierra Leone.¹⁶⁶⁶ Trafficked boys are subject to forced labor in small workshops and as street vendors, while girls who have been trafficked work as domestic servants

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working:	Unavailable
Minimum age for admission to work:	16 ¹⁶⁵⁶
Age to which education is compulsory:	16 ¹⁶⁵⁷
Free public education:	Yes ^{1658*}
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:	130% ¹⁶⁵⁹
Net primary enrollment rate in 2001:	77% ¹⁶⁶⁰
Percent of children 5-14 attending school:	Unavailable
As of 2002, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	69% ¹⁶⁶¹
Ratified Convention 138:	No ¹⁶⁶²
Ratified Convention 182:	3/28/2001 ¹⁶⁶³
ILO-IPEC Participating Country:	Yes ¹⁶⁶⁴
*Must pay for school supplies and related items.	

and in the informal commercial sector, including in restaurants and market vending.¹⁶⁶⁷ Children trafficked from Nigeria are found working as mechanics.¹⁶⁶⁸ Children are also trafficked to Gabon for commercial sexual exploitation. There are reports of girls who were trafficked for domestic labor escaping their employers and then facing sexual abuse and

also Government of Fiji *Committee Set Up to See Eradication of Child Labour*, [Press Release] June 30, 2005 [cited October 17, 2006]; available from <http://www.fiji.gov.fj/cgi-bin/cms/exec/view.cgi/64/4884>.

¹⁶⁵⁶ Government of Gabon, *Code du travail*, Loi no 3/94, (November 21, 1994), Article 6; available from <http://natlex.ilo.org/txt/F94GAB01.htm>.

¹⁶⁵⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Gabon," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78735.htm>.

¹⁶⁵⁸ Ibid. See also Right to Education, *Table 2: The Law and Practice in Sub-Saharan Africa*, [online] December 2005 [cited September 28, 2006]; available from <http://www.right-to-education.org/>.

¹⁶⁵⁹ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

¹⁶⁶⁰ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Rate. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

¹⁶⁶¹ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Survival Rate to Grade 5. Total*, accessed December 18, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

¹⁶⁶² ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, accessed September 25, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/cgi-lex/ratific.pl?Gabon>.

¹⁶⁶³ Ibid.

¹⁶⁶⁴ ILO-IPEC, *IPEC Action Against Child Labour; Highlights 2006*, Geneva, October 2006; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ippec/prod/eng/20061019_Implementationreport_eng_Web.pdf.

¹⁶⁶⁵ U.S. Embassy- Libreville, *reporting*, December 8, 2006.

¹⁶⁶⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Gabon (Tier 2)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/65988.htm>.

¹⁶⁶⁷ Ibid.

¹⁶⁶⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Gabon," Section 5.

exploitation in prostitution.¹⁶⁶⁹ Poor families in surrounding countries send their children with traffickers to live and work in the homes of affluent Gabonese families in exchange for an education and/or monthly wages. Trafficked children, however, reportedly receive only rudimentary room and board, are denied educational opportunities, and seldom receive wages.¹⁶⁷⁰ Trafficked children work long hours and are subject to physical abuse.¹⁶⁷¹

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum age for employment at 16 years. Younger children, however, may work with the consent of the Ministries of Labor, Education, and Public Health. Children between 14 and 16 years may work as apprentices with permission from the Ministry of National Education.¹⁶⁷² The employment of children in jobs that are unsuitable for them because of their age, state, or condition, or that interfere with their education is also prohibited.¹⁶⁷³ Children under 16 years who have been removed from exploitive labor must be placed in appropriate reception or transit centers.¹⁶⁷⁴ Children under 18 years are prohibited from working at night in industrial establishments, except in family enterprises; however, children over 16 years are permitted to work in certain industries that, by their nature, must be continued at night, such as the refinement of sugar and firing steel and sheet metal.¹⁶⁷⁵ The law imposes a fine for violations of minimum age laws and a larger fine along with a prison term of 2 to 6 months for repeat violators.¹⁶⁷⁶

Gabon's trafficking law outlines measures to protect children under 18 years from trafficking and stipulates imprisonment and a fine for perpetrators.¹⁶⁷⁷ Trafficked children must be repatriated to their country of origin at the expense of their employer or guardian.¹⁶⁷⁸ Gabonese law also prohibits forced labor, slavery, abduction, and pimping.¹⁶⁷⁹ The penalty for imposing forced labor is a fine, and recurring violations are punishable with imprisonment for

¹⁶⁶⁹ ECPAT International CSEC Database, *Gabon*, accessed September 20, 2006; available from <http://www.ecpat.net/>. See also The Protection Project, "Gabon," in *2005 Human Rights Report on Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children*, Washington, DC, 2005; available from <http://www.protectionproject.org>. See also Integrated Regional Information Networks, "GABON: Laws fail to curb child trafficking racket", IRINnews.org, [online], February 4, 2005 [cited September 20, 2006]; available from <http://irinnews.org/print.asp?ReportID=45400>.

¹⁶⁷⁰ ECPAT International CSEC Database, *Gabon*. See also The Protection Project, "2005 Human Rights Report on Trafficking in Persons: Gabon." See also Integrated Regional Information Networks, "GABON: Laws fail to curb child trafficking racket".

¹⁶⁷¹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Gabon," Section 5.

¹⁶⁷² Government of Gabon, *Code du travail*, Articles 82 and 177.

¹⁶⁷³ *Ibid.*, Article 6.

¹⁶⁷⁴ ILO, *The Effective Abolition of Child Labour*, 2003; available from <http://www.ilo.org/public/english/standards/decl/download/review03/childlabour.pdf>.

¹⁶⁷⁵ Government of Gabon, *Code du travail*, Articles 167 and 168.

¹⁶⁷⁶ *Ibid.*, Article 195.

¹⁶⁷⁷ ILO, *Report of the Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations (Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention) 1999 (No. 182) Gabon*, Observation, CEACR 2005/76th Session, Geneva, 2005; available from <http://webfusion.ilo.org/public/db/standards/normes/appl/appl-displaycomment.cfm?hdoff=1&ctry=2610&year=2005&type=O&conv=C182&lang=EN>.

¹⁶⁷⁸ ILO, *The Effective Abolition of Child Labor*.

¹⁶⁷⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Gabon (Tier 2)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2005*, Washington, DC, June 3, 2005; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2005/46613.htm>.

2 to 6 months and a heavier fine.¹⁶⁸⁰ Procurement of a minor for the purpose of prostitution is punishable by imprisonment for 2 to 5 years and a fine.¹⁶⁸¹ The minimum age for voluntary recruitment into the military is 20 years; there is no conscription.¹⁶⁸²

The Government of Gabon purchased 10 patrol boats for its security forces and navy to in part combat maritime child trafficking, and Gabonese security forces conducted a series of anti-trafficking sweeps that resulted in suspected traffickers being handed over to prosecutors.¹⁶⁸³ As of June 2006, two child trafficking cases were being prosecuted; five individuals remained in police custody under investigation, and the remaining 15 cases had been dismissed.¹⁶⁸⁴

Minimum age laws for the protection of Gabonese children were strictly enforced in urban areas, but rarely in rural areas.¹⁶⁸⁵ Theoretically, the law also protects foreign children in Gabon, many who are victims of child trafficking, but these victims rarely report abuse.¹⁶⁸⁶ The Ministry of Justice is responsible for the enforcement of child labor laws, while the Ministry of Labor is charged with receiving, investigating, and addressing child labor complaints. However, the U.S. Department of State reported that the number of labor inspectors was inadequate, and complaints were not routinely investigated.¹⁶⁸⁷

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The government has undertaken several measures to raise awareness of trafficking issues and the anti-trafficking law, including the organization of town hall meetings by the Ministry of Justice, extensive coverage of trafficking stories by the government-controlled media, and placement of anti-trafficking posters in schools and other public venues with the help of UNICEF.¹⁶⁸⁸ The government established a National Programme of Action to combat child trafficking, and a National Plan to Fight against Child Labor.¹⁶⁸⁹

The Government of Gabon participates in a USD 9.3 million regional USDOL-funded ILO-IPEC project to combat the trafficking of children for exploitive labor in West and Central Africa (LUTRENA) that targets 9,000 children for withdrawal and prevention.¹⁶⁹⁰ Additionally, the Governments of Gabon and Nigeria have a signed agreement that all Nigerian child

¹⁶⁸⁰ Government of Gabon, *Code du travail*, Article 195.

¹⁶⁸¹ Government of Gabon, *Penal Code*, Articles 260 and 261; available from [hard copy on file].

¹⁶⁸² Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Gabon," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, London, 2004; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=774.

¹⁶⁸³ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Gabon." See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Gabon," Section 5.

¹⁶⁸⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Gabon."

¹⁶⁸⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Gabon," Section 6d.

¹⁶⁸⁶ *Ibid.*

¹⁶⁸⁷ *Ibid.*

¹⁶⁸⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Gabon."

¹⁶⁸⁹ ILO-IPEC, *Combating the Trafficking in Children for Labour Exploitation in West and Central Africa (LUTRENA), Phase III*, technical progress report, Geneva, March 2005, 3. See also ECPAT International CSEC Database, *Gabon*.

¹⁶⁹⁰ U.S. Department of Labor International Child Labor Program, *Combating Trafficking in Children for Labor Exploitation in West and Central Africa, Phases 1 & 2 (LUTRENA)*, project summary, 2006.

trafficking victims are placed directly with the Nigerian Embassy.¹⁶⁹¹ With funding from the U.S. Department of State, UNICEF and Caritas Gabon are constructing a shelter for victims of child trafficking, which will revert to the government after 5 years.¹⁶⁹² UNICEF has also worked to raise awareness on child trafficking through workshops and seminars, radio and television messages, and posters.¹⁶⁹³ In collaboration with UNICEF, the government operates a toll-free hotline for child trafficking victims. The call center provides trafficking victims with free transportation to a shelter.¹⁶⁹⁴

In July 2006, 24 of the 26 governments represented in the ECOWAS and the ECASS participated in a Joint Ministerial Conference on Trafficking in Persons held in Nigeria to develop a common understanding of trafficking in West and Central Africa and to adopt a common set of strategies against trafficking. During the Ministerial Conference, Gabon was 1 of 24 countries to adopt the Multilateral Cooperative Agreement to Combat Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, in West and Central Africa and the Joint Plan of Action against Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children in the West and Central African Regions.¹⁶⁹⁵ As part of the Multilateral Cooperative Agreement, the governments agreed to put into place the child trafficking monitoring system developed by the U.S. Department of Labor-funded, ILO-IPEC LUTRENA project; to improve management and control of borders, including ensuring that birth certificates and travel identity documents cannot easily be falsified or altered; to assist each other in the investigation, arrest and prosecution of trafficking offenders; to protect, rehabilitate and reintegrate trafficking victims; and to improve educational systems, vocational training and apprenticeships.¹⁶⁹⁶

¹⁶⁹¹ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Gabon."

¹⁶⁹² U.S. Embassy- Libreville, *US to Fund a Center for Victims of Child Trafficking*, [online] [cited September 21, 2006]; available from http://libreville.usembassy.gov/us_to_fund_a_center_for_victims_of_child_trafficking.html. See also ILO-IPEC, *Combating the Trafficking of Children for Labour Exploitation in West and Central Africa (LUTRENA)*, technical progress report, Washington, DC, September 2006, 3.

¹⁶⁹³ UNICEF, *At a Glance: Gabon*, [online] [cited September 18, 2006]; available from <http://www.unicef.org/infobycountry/gabon.html>.

¹⁶⁹⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Gabon." See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Gabon," Section 5.

¹⁶⁹⁵ ILO-IPEC, *LUTRENA, September 2006 technical progress report*. See also Catholic Relief Services official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, October 2, 2006.

¹⁶⁹⁶ ECOWAS and ECASS, *Multilateral Cooperative Agreement to Combat Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, in West and Central Africa*, Abuja, July 7, 2006. See also ILO-IPEC, *LUTRENA, September 2006 technical progress report*. See also Emmanuel Goujon, "African States Sign Up to Fight Human Trafficking," *Agence France-Presse*, July 7, 2006.

The Gambia

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In rural areas of The Gambia, most working children work on farms. Working children in urban areas work as taxi or bus attendants.¹⁷⁰⁷

Working girls are most likely to work as street vendors, selling food items such as candy, water, and fruits for their parents. Working boys are most commonly found doing such odd jobs as hauling items or sweeping.¹⁷⁰⁸

Many children between 14

and 16 work in technical sectors such as lumbering, sewing, or masonry.¹⁷⁰⁹ Children who are sent to Koranic schools are often forced to beg in the streets for their teachers.¹⁷¹⁰

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 2000:	24.8% ¹⁶⁹⁷
Minimum age of work:	16 ¹⁶⁹⁸
Age to which education is compulsory:	8 ¹⁶⁹⁹
Free public education:	Yes ^{1700*}
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:	81% ¹⁷⁰¹
Net primary enrollment rate in 2004:	75% ¹⁷⁰²
Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 2000:	57.8% ¹⁷⁰³
Percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	Unavailable
Ratified Convention 138:	9/4/2000 ¹⁷⁰⁴
Ratified Convention 182:	7/3/2001 ¹⁷⁰⁵
ILO-IPEC participating country:	No ¹⁷⁰⁶
*Must pay for school supplies and related items.	

¹⁶⁹⁷ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, October 7, 2005.

¹⁶⁹⁸ Government of The Gambia, Government of The Gambia., *Children's Act, 2005*, Article 43(1).

¹⁶⁹⁹ *Constitution of the Gambia*, (1997); available from <http://www.childlaborlaws.org/docs/866.shtml>. See also U.S. Department of State, "The Gambia," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78736.htm>.

¹⁷⁰⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: The Gambia." Section 5.

¹⁷⁰¹ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

¹⁷⁰² UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Rate. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

¹⁷⁰³ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

¹⁷⁰⁴ ILO, *ILOLEX Database of International Labour Standards*, 2005 [cited October 26, 2006]; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/newratframeE.htm>.

¹⁷⁰⁵ *Ibid.*

¹⁷⁰⁶ ILO, *Alphabetical List of ILO Member Countries*, Washington, DC, , 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/public/english/standards/relm/ctry-ndx.htm>.

¹⁷⁰⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: The Gambia." Section 6d.

¹⁷⁰⁸ Christian Children's Fund- The Gambia, *Child Protection Baseline Assessment for Children Living and Working in the Streets of Banjul*, Christian Children's Fund, January 3, 2006, 13. See also Department of State for Education Official, Interview with USDOL contractor, September 4, 2006.

¹⁷⁰⁹ U.S. Embassy- Banjul, *reporting*, October 15, 2002.

¹⁷¹⁰ Ejatou Jallow, "The State of Gambian Children," *The Independent* (Banjul), April 2, 2004; available from http://www.ecpat.net/eng/Ecpat_inter/IRC/newsdesk_articles.asp?SCID=1293. See also Gambia, *Child Protection Baseline Assessment*, 13.

Commercial sexual exploitation of children, including prostitution, is common in The Gambia.¹⁷¹¹ Gambian men called “sugar daddies” are also reported to offer gifts to young girls in exchange for sexual favors.¹⁷¹² Visiting European pedophiles exploit children through sex tourism.¹⁷¹³

Child trafficking is also a problem in The Gambia. Boys are trafficked for a wide range of work including, but not limited to, sexual exploitation, fishing, and begging.¹⁷¹⁴

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum age for employment in The Gambia at 16 years.¹⁷¹⁵ Gambian law prohibits economic exploitation and hazardous work, or work that interferes with education for children under 16.¹⁷¹⁶ Children 16 to 18 can only engage in light work and are not permitted to work at night.¹⁷¹⁷ However, children may serve as apprentices at 12.¹⁷¹⁸

All employees are given employee labor cards that include their age. These cards are registered with the labor commissioner who is authorized to enforce child labor laws. However, the U.S. Department of State reports that inspections rarely occurred.¹⁷¹⁹ Child Protection Units within the Police Department also handle child-related law enforcement.¹⁷²⁰ There is a Children’s Court that likewise handles child labor cases.¹⁷²¹

Forced labor, including by children, is prohibited by law.¹⁷²² Children under 18 may not be recruited into the armed forces.¹⁷²³ The law prohibits promoting child prostitution and procuring a child for sexual exploitation in The Gambia or elsewhere. Penalties for such offenses range from 10 to 14 years imprisonment.¹⁷²⁴ Trafficking of children is specifically prohibited under Gambian law, which stipulates a penalty of life imprisonment.¹⁷²⁵ Enforcement of law pertaining to trafficking in children is primarily the responsibility of the Tourism Security Unit.¹⁷²⁶ The Department of Labor under the Department of State for Trade

¹⁷¹¹ Department of State for Education Official, Interview, September 4, 2006.

¹⁷¹² Integrated Regional Information Networks, "GAMBIA: Rising poverty breeds sexual exploitation of children by Sugar Daddies", IRINnews.org, June 15, 2006; available from <http://www.irinnews.org/print.asp?ReportID=40937>.

¹⁷¹³ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: The Gambia." Section 5.

¹⁷¹⁴ U.S. Department of State, *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: The Gambia*, Washington, D.C., June 3, 2005; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2005/46613.htm>.

¹⁷¹⁵ *Children’s Act, 2005*, Article 43(1).

¹⁷¹⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: The Gambia."

¹⁷¹⁷ *Children’s Act, 2005*, Articles 42-43.

¹⁷¹⁸ *Children’s Act, 2005*, Article 51.

¹⁷¹⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: The Gambia." Section 6d.

¹⁷²⁰ U.S. Embassy- Banjul, reporting, July 24, 2007.

¹⁷²¹ Ibid.

¹⁷²² Ibid., Section 5.

¹⁷²³ *Children’s Act, 2005*, Article 59(1).

¹⁷²⁴ Ibid., Articles 29-38.

¹⁷²⁵ Ibid., Article 39.

¹⁷²⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: The Gambia."

and Employment was responsible for implementing provisions on the worst forms of child labor.¹⁷²⁷

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Government of The Gambia is implementing its 2004-2008 National Policy for Children in The Gambia, which includes components addressing child economic and sexual exploitation.¹⁷²⁸ To educate hotel personnel about child sexual tourism, the Child Protection Alliance (CPA), a consortium of government agencies and NGOs, conducted several awareness campaigns. With the help of the Department of State for Justice, the CPA launched a government-funded trafficking education campaign during the year.¹⁷²⁹ CPA has also aired radio programs that covered such issues as child trafficking, and they teamed up with another local NGO for a child trafficking workshop.¹⁷³⁰

¹⁷²⁷ Ibid.

¹⁷²⁸ Republic of The Gambia, *2004–2008 National Policy for Children in The Gambia.*, Department of Social Welfare, , 2003.

¹⁷²⁹ U.S. Department of State, *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006:Gambia*, Washington, D.C., June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/65988.htm>.

¹⁷³⁰ U.S. Embassy- Banjul, *reporting*, March 5, 2007.

Georgia

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Child work is prevalent in rural areas of Georgia.¹⁷⁴² Approximately 77.4 percent of working children work on family farms and about 18.4 percent work in family enterprises. It has been estimated that more than 2,500 children work in the streets begging or selling small items.¹⁷⁴³ Sexual exploitation, including child prostitution and pornography, is reported to occur; however, no statistics are available. Girls are especially affected.¹⁷⁴⁴

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 7-14 estimated as working in 2000:	21.5% ¹⁷³¹
Minimum age of work:	16 ¹⁷³²
Age to which education is compulsory:	14 ¹⁷³³
Free public education:	Yes ¹⁷³⁴
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2002:	95% ¹⁷³⁵
Net primary enrollment rate in 2002:	93% ¹⁷³⁶
Percent of children 5-14 attending school:	Unavailable ¹⁷³⁷
Percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	Unavailable ¹⁷³⁸
Ratified Convention 138:	9/23/1996 ¹⁷³⁹
Ratified Convention 182:	7/24/2002 ¹⁷⁴⁰
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Yes, associated ¹⁷⁴¹

¹⁷³¹ Gabriel Labbate and Levan Jamburia, *Child Labor in Georgia*, ILO, Tbilisi, January 2004.

¹⁷³² Government of Georgia, Ministry of Labor, Healthcare, and Social Affairs, *Information on Child Labor Protection in Georgia*, Tbilisi, February 2, 2005. See also U.S. Embassy- Tbilisi, *reporting*, December 15, 2006.

¹⁷³³ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2005: Georgia," Washington, D.C., 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2004/41682.htm>

¹⁷³⁴ Ibid.

¹⁷³⁵ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross and Net Enrolment Ratios. Primary. Total*, accessed February 1, 2007; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

¹⁷³⁶ Ibid.

¹⁷³⁷ This statistic is not available from the data sources that are used in this report. Please see the "Data Sources and Definitions" section for information about sources used. Reliable data on the worst forms of child labor are especially difficult to collect given the often hidden or illegal nature of the worst forms, such as the use of children in the illegal drug trade, prostitution, pornography, and trafficking. As a result, statistics and information on children's work in general are reported in this section. Such statistics and information may or may not include the worst forms of child labor. For more information on the definition of working children and other indicators used in this report, please see the "Data Sources and Definitions" section.

¹⁷³⁸ This statistic is not available from the data sources that are used in this report. Please see the "Data Sources and Definitions" section for information about sources used.

¹⁷³⁹ ILO, *ILOLEX Database of International Labour Standards, 2005*, accessed October 26, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/cgi-lex/ratifce.pl?Georgia>.

¹⁷⁴⁰ ILO, *ILOLEX Database of International Labour Standards, 2005* [cited October 26, 2006]; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/cgi-lex/ratifce.pl?Georgia>.

¹⁷⁴¹ ILO-IPEC, *IPEC Action Against Child Labor*, Geneva, October 2006, 29; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ippec/prod/eng/20061019_Implementationreport_eng_Web.pdf.

¹⁷⁴² U.S. Embassy- Tbilisi, *reporting*, December 15, 2006.

¹⁷⁴³ Government of Georgia, *National Plan of Action for Children 2003-2007 [Draft-English Edition]*, Tbilisi, 38. See also U.S. Embassy- Tbilisi, Email communication to USDOL Official, August 6, 2007.

¹⁷⁴⁴ Government of Georgia, *National Plan of Action for Children 2003-2007 [Draft-English Edition]*.

Trafficking is also a problem, and street children are more vulnerable to the threat.¹⁷⁴⁵ Children from Ukraine, Moldova, Russia, and other parts of the former Soviet Union, are trafficked through Georgia to Turkey, the United Arab Emirates, Greece, and Western Europe.¹⁷⁴⁶ Organized crime rings have become involved in trafficking, kidnapping women and children to sell into sexual servitude.¹⁷⁴⁷

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum age for work at 16.¹⁷⁴⁸ However, children as young as 14 may work with parental consent if the work does not damage the minors' health or hinder their studies.¹⁷⁴⁹ Children between 16 and 18 are permitted to work 36 hours per week, while children 14 to 16 may work only 24 hours per week.¹⁷⁵⁰ Children under 18 are not permitted to work in heavy, harmful, or dangerous work, including underground work. Examples of dangerous or harmful work include mechanical engineering, metallurgy, and welding. Employment of children under 18 between 10:00 pm and 6:00 am and during holidays is prohibited. Minors are also banned from selling alcoholic beverages, tobacco, and magazines and newspapers containing pornographic materials; and from working in gambling institutions, night clubs, and bars.¹⁷⁵¹

The law provides that sexual contact with any person under 16 is a crime and states that any person involving children under 18 in prostitution or other sexual depravity may be punished with imprisonment from 3 months up to 3 years.¹⁷⁵² Production, sale, distribution, or promotion of child pornography is punishable by imprisonment of up to 3 years. The punishment for involving a minor in the production of pornographic material is 5 years of imprisonment.¹⁷⁵³ The law prohibits trafficking in minors for sexual exploitation, forced labor, and other forms of exploitation. Punishment for these crimes is imprisonment from 5 to 12 years, and in extreme cases up to 20 years.¹⁷⁵⁴ The minimum age for entry into the armed forces is 18.¹⁷⁵⁵

¹⁷⁴⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2005: Georgia," Washington, D.C., 2005; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2004/41682.htm>

¹⁷⁴⁶ Ibid.

¹⁷⁴⁷ Georgi Glonti, *Problems Associated with Organized Crime in Georgia*, Institute of Legal Reforms of Georgia, Tbilisi; available from <http://ilr.iatp.ge/Publications/Publications.html>

¹⁷⁴⁸ U.S. Embassy- Tbilisi, *reporting*, December 15, 2006.

¹⁷⁴⁹ Government of Georgia, *National Plan of Action for Children 2003-2007 [Draft-English Edition]*.

¹⁷⁵⁰ Ibid., 40.

¹⁷⁵¹ Government of Georgia, Ministry of Labor, Healthcare, and Social Affairs, *Information on Child Labor Protection*, 2-3. See also U.S. Embassy- Tbilisi, *reporting*, December 15, 2006.

¹⁷⁵² Government of Georgia, *National Laws: Legislation of Interpol Member States on Sexual Offences Against Children- Georgia, 2006*, [accessed June 20, 2006, Articles 140 and 171; available from <http://www.interpol.int/Public/Children/SexualAbuse/NationalLaws/csaGeorgia.asp>.

¹⁷⁵³ U.S. Embassy- Tbilisi, *reporting*, December 15, 2006.

¹⁷⁵⁴ The Protection Project, *Georgia*, [online] accessed September 30, 2005; available from <http://www.protectionproject.org/report/georgia.doc>.

¹⁷⁵⁵ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, *Child Soldiers Global Report- Georgia*, November 17, 2004; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=901.

The Office of Labor Inspection within the Ministry of Health and Social Security, which was previously charged with the enforcement of labor laws, was disbanded in 2006. Inspections are now conducted by the Labor Department of the Ministry of Health and Social Security. The Labor Department employs six inspectors but has no reports of any child labor complaints.¹⁷⁵⁶ Between April 2006 and February 2007, the Georgian Government investigated 28 trafficking cases, of which 16 were prosecuted. Nine of these cases resulted in convictions, with an average sentence of 10 years.¹⁷⁵⁷ In 2006, Georgia made considerable progress in improving victim safeguards through the implementation of a victim-centered national referral mechanism, establishment of the nation's first trafficking victims' shelter, and the dedication of ongoing funding for victim assistance.¹⁷⁵⁸

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

In August 2003, the Government of Georgia approved a National Plan of Action for Children (2003-2007), which identified several goals and strategies to provide for street children and eliminate child labor and child sexual exploitation.¹⁷⁵⁹ The Ministry of Education and the Child and Environment Organization, an NGO, operate shelters in the capital city of Tbilisi.¹⁷⁶⁰ The Ministry of Internal Affairs sponsors a center for the rehabilitation of minors, which regularly provided medical and psychological assistance to child and adolescent victims of prostitution before returning them to their guardians.¹⁷⁶¹

In April 2006, the government adopted and implemented a strict new anti-trafficking law. The passage of this legislation made it easier to prosecute traffickers, increased minimum sentences for convicted traffickers, and clarified the government's responsibilities for victim identification and assistance. The Government of Georgia established the Permanent Anti-Trafficking Coordination Council in September 2006, replacing the temporary body established earlier in 2005. The new Council drafted a comprehensive 2007-2008 National Action Plan to fight trafficking, which was approved by the President in January 2007. During 2006, the government printed and distributed 200,000 anti-trafficking brochures at Georgia's main points of entry.¹⁷⁶²

¹⁷⁵⁶ U.S. Embassy- Tbilisi, *reporting*, December 15, 2006.

¹⁷⁵⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Georgia." See also U.S. Embassy- Tbilisi, Email communication to USDOL Official, August 6, 2007.

¹⁷⁵⁸ U.S. Embassy- Tbilisi, Email communication to USDOL Official, August 6, 2007.

¹⁷⁵⁹ Government of Georgia, *National Plan of Action for Children 2003-2007 [Draft-English Edition]*.

¹⁷⁶⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2005: Georgia."

¹⁷⁶¹ U.S. Embassy- Tbilisi, Email communication to USDOL Official, August 6, 2007.

¹⁷⁶² Ibid.

Ghana

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2000, approximately 24.5 percent of boys and 24 percent of girls ages 5 to 14 were working in Ghana. The majority of working children were found in the agricultural sector (71 percent), followed by services (22.6 percent), manufacturing (5.8 percent), and other sectors (0.6 percent).¹⁷⁷⁴ In rural areas, children engage in agriculture, including work on cocoa farms. Some children use machetes in harvesting and carry heavy loads.¹⁷⁷⁵ In urban centers, children work

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 2000:	24.2% ¹⁷⁶³
Minimum age for work:	15 ¹⁷⁶⁴
Age to which education is compulsory:	14 ¹⁷⁶⁵
Free public education:	Yes ^{1766*}
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2005:	88% ¹⁷⁶⁷
Net primary enrollment rate in 2005:	65% ¹⁷⁶⁸
Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 2000:	80% ¹⁷⁶⁹
As of 2002, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	63% ¹⁷⁷⁰
Ratified Convention 138:	No ¹⁷⁷¹
Ratified Convention 182:	6/13/2000 ¹⁷⁷²
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Yes ¹⁷⁷³
*Must pay for school supplies and related items.	

¹⁷⁶³ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, March 1, 2007.

¹⁷⁶⁴ *The Children's Act (Act 560)*, (September 24, 1998), Section 89; available from <http://www.ilo.org/dyon/natlex/docs/WEBTEXT/56216/65194/E98GHA01.htm>. See also U.S. Department of State, "Ghana," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 6d; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78737.htm>.

¹⁷⁶⁵ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Survival Rate to Grade 5. Total*, accessed December 18, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Ghana," Section 5. See also *The 1996 Constitution of the Republic of Ghana*, Chapter 5, Article 25; available from http://www.parliament.gh/const_constitution.php.

¹⁷⁶⁶ *Constitution of Ghana*, Chapter 5, Article 25. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Ghana," Section 5.

¹⁷⁶⁷ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

¹⁷⁶⁸ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Rate. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

¹⁷⁶⁹ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

¹⁷⁷⁰ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*.

¹⁷⁷¹ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, accessed September 24, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/newratframeE.htm>.

¹⁷⁷² Ibid.

¹⁷⁷³ ILO, *IPEC Action Against Child Labour- Highlights 2006*, [online] 2006 [cited March 29, 2007], 30; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ippec/prod/eng/20070228_Implementationreport_en_Web.pdf.

¹⁷⁷⁴ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

¹⁷⁷⁵ Ministry of Manpower Youth and Employment and the Ghana Cocoa Board, *National Programme for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour in the Cocoa Sector 2006-2011*, The Republic of Ghana, 2006, v, 9-11, 13.

in the informal economy, in transportation, restaurants, petty trading, and fare collecting. Street children are becoming increasingly visible in the large cities, as children migrate from rural to urban areas in increasing numbers.¹⁷⁷⁶ Children engage in street vending,¹⁷⁷⁷ commercial agriculture, and small-scale mining and quarrying. The fishing industry on Lake Volta employs many children in potentially hazardous work such as deep sea diving¹⁷⁷⁸ and casting and drawing nets.¹⁷⁷⁹ Girls work in domestic service for fishermen in the Lake Volta area of Yeji.¹⁷⁸⁰ Girls work as head porters in urban areas such as Accra, Kumasi, and Takoradi. These girls often live on the streets and are especially vulnerable to being exploited in prostitution.¹⁷⁸¹ Children are also engaged in commercial sexual exploitation.¹⁷⁸² The exploitation of children in prostitution in the tourism industry is increasing¹⁷⁸³ and is reported to occur in the tourist destinations of Elmina and Cape Coast.¹⁷⁸⁴

Some children, mostly girls, are engaged in *Trokosi*, a religious practice indigenous to the southern Volta region, which involves pledging primarily children and young women to atone for family members' sins by helping with the upkeep of religious shrines and assisting during prayers. During their period of atonement, which can last from a few months to 3 years, *Trokosis* sometimes live near their shrines of service, often with members of their extended family. A *Trokosi* is expressly forbidden from engaging in sexual activity during the atonement period.¹⁷⁸⁵ Opinions differ on whether *trokosi* constitutes forced or ritual servitude, which is banned under the law;¹⁷⁸⁶ but Ghana's Ministry of Manpower, Youth, and Development and the Cocoa Board have stated that the *Trokosi* system represents ritual

See also ILO-IPEC, *West Africa Cocoa/Commercial Agriculture Program to Combat Hazardous and Exploitative Child Labour (WACAP)*, project document, Geneva, September 26, 2002.

¹⁷⁷⁶ ILO-IPEC, *Support for the Implementation of Timebound Measures for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor in Ghana*, project document, Geneva, September 3, 2004, 2. See also Ghana Statistical Service, *Ghana Child Labour Survey*, March 2003. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Ghana," Section 5.

¹⁷⁷⁷ U.S. Embassy- Accra, *reporting*, December 15, 2006, para 2A.

¹⁷⁷⁸ ILO-IPEC, *Support for the Implementation of Timebound Measures for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor in Ghana*, project document, 4. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Ghana," Section 6d. See also Raggie Johansen, "Child Trafficking in Ghana", UNODC eNewsletter, [online], 2006; available from <http://www.unodc.org/newsletter/en/perspectives/0601/page002.html>.

¹⁷⁷⁹ Afrol News, "Progress in Freeing Ghanaian Slave Boys", [afrol.com](http://www.afrol.com), [online], March 5, 2003 [cited September 27, 2005]; available from http://www.afrol.com/News2003/gha008_labour.htm.

¹⁷⁸⁰ U.S. Embassy- Accra, *reporting*, December 15, 2006, para 6E.

¹⁷⁸¹ ILO-IPEC, *Girl Child Labour in Agriculture, Domestic Work and Sexual Exploitation: Rapid Assessments on the Cases of the Philippines, Ghana and Ecuador*, Geneva, 2004; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ippec/prod/eng/gcl_vol1_2004.pdf. See also ILO Committee of Experts, *Direct Request, Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182) Ghana (ratification: 2000)*, [online] [cited September 24, 2006]; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/cgi-lex/singleilc.pl?query=092007CMR182@ref&chspec=16&highlight=&querytype=bool>. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Ghana," Section 5.

¹⁷⁸² ILO-IPEC, *Support for the Implementation of Timebound Measures for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor in Ghana*, project document, 4. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Ghana," Section 6d. See also U.S. Embassy- Accra, *reporting*, December 15, 2006, paras 2A and 6E.

¹⁷⁸³ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Ghana," Section 5.

¹⁷⁸⁴ The Protection Project, *Ghana*, [online] [cited September 24, 2006]; available from <http://www.protectionproject.org>.

¹⁷⁸⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Ghana," Sections 2c. and 5.

¹⁷⁸⁶ ILO-IPEC, *Support for the Implementation of Timebound Measures for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor in Ghana*, project document, 10. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Ghana," Section 2c. See also *Consolidation of Criminal Code, 1960; Act 29*, (December 10, 1999).

servitude.¹⁷⁸⁷ There is no evidence of physical or sexual abuse being a systematic part of the practice, but instances of sexual abuse may occur. United States Embassy investigations into *Trokosi* did not yield credible evidence of systematic or widespread abuses associated with the practice.¹⁷⁸⁸

Ghana is a source, transit, and destination country for child trafficking for commercial sexual exploitation and forced labor.¹⁷⁸⁹ Ghanaian children are trafficked to Côte d'Ivoire, Togo, Nigeria, and The Gambia for domestic service and labor exploitation. Girls are trafficked to the Middle East for forced labor in domestic service and, in isolated instances, to Western Europe for commercial sexual exploitation.¹⁷⁹⁰ Children from Côte d'Ivoire, Togo, Benin, and Nigeria are trafficked to Ghana for forced labor in domestic work and commercial sexual exploitation.¹⁷⁹¹

The internal trafficking of children is also a problem. Within Ghana, children are trafficked to work in cocoa farming, domestic service, street vending, portering, the fishing industry, and commercial sexual exploitation. The IOM estimates that thousands of children have been trafficked internally to work in the fishing villages lining Lake Volta.¹⁷⁹² Typically, boys trafficked internally come from the north and are trafficked to Lake Volta for fishing or to the west for mining, while girls come from the north or east and are trafficked to Accra and Kumasi for work in portering, domestic service, and trading.¹⁷⁹³ There were reports of children being given away, leased, or sold by their parents to work in agriculture, fishing, shops, quarry mines, domestic service,¹⁷⁹⁴ and commercial sexual exploitation.¹⁷⁹⁵ The common cultural practice of "adoption," in which impoverished parents send their children to live with affluent relatives and family friends, has helped contribute to the problem of child trafficking in Ghana.¹⁷⁹⁶

¹⁷⁸⁷ Ministry of Manpower Youth and Employment and the Ghana Cocoa Board, *National Programme for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor in Cocoa*, iv, vi, and 8.

¹⁷⁸⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Ghana," Section 5.

¹⁷⁸⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Ghana (Tier 2)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/65988.htm>. See also UN Office on Drugs and Crime, *Trafficking in Persons: Global Patterns*.

¹⁷⁹⁰ U.S. Embassy- Accra, *Ghana: Update on Worst Forms of Child Labor* submitted in response to U.S. Department of Labor Federal Register Notice (December 5, 2006) "Request for Information on Efforts by Certain Countries to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor", December 15, 2006, para 6E. See also U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report - 2006: Ghana." See also Integrated Regional Information Networks, "Gambia-Ghana: Sex Slave Children Trafficked by Ghanaian Fishermen", IRINnews.org, [online], February 26, 2004 [cited May 5, 2007]; available from <http://www.irinnews.org/report.aspx?reportid=48765>.

¹⁷⁹¹ U.S. Embassy- Accra, *Ghana: Update on Worst Forms of Child Labor*, para 6E.

¹⁷⁹² U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report - 2006: Ghana." See also U.S. Embassy- Accra, *reporting, December 15, 2006*, para 6E. See also The Protection Project, *Ghana*.

¹⁷⁹³ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Ghana," Section 5.

¹⁷⁹⁴ *Ibid.*, Sections 5 and 6d.

¹⁷⁹⁵ U.S. Embassy- Accra, *Ghana: Update on Worst Forms of Child Labor*, para 6E.

¹⁷⁹⁶ Johansen, "Child Trafficking in Ghana". See also Integrated Regional Information Networks, "West Africa: Children in Danger: War on Trafficking", IRINnews.org, [online], June 29, 2006 [cited October 7, 2006]; available from <http://www.irinnews.org/report.aspx?reportid=59518>.

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

Ghanaian law sets the minimum age for employment at 15 years, and at 13 years for light work. Light work is defined as work that is not harmful to the health or development of a child and does not affect the child's attendance or ability to benefit from school.¹⁷⁹⁷ The law stipulates that children 15 years and older, or children who have completed basic education, can work as apprentices if the craftsman provides food, training, and a safe and healthy work environment.¹⁷⁹⁸ Children under 18 years may not engage in night work, which is defined as work conducted between 8 p.m. and 6 a.m.¹⁷⁹⁹ The law prohibits persons under 18 years from engaging in hazardous labor, which includes work in mines or quarries; at sea; in bars, hotels, or places of entertainment; in manufacturing that involves chemicals; in places that operate machinery; or in any job that involves carrying heavy loads.¹⁸⁰⁰ Employers who violate any of the above provisions regulating children's employment, with the exception of those related to apprenticeships, are subject to a fine and/or 2 years of imprisonment. Employers who operate in the formal sector must keep a register with the dates of birth or apparent ages of the children they employ; failure to keep this register is punishable by a fine.¹⁸⁰¹

The law prohibits forced or bonded labor by anyone, including children.¹⁸⁰² Ritual servitude is illegal in Ghana and is punishable by 3 years of imprisonment.¹⁸⁰³ The law prohibits persons with custody, charge, or care of a child under 16 years from encouraging or causing that child to become involved in prostitution.¹⁸⁰⁴ It is a misdemeanor to procure females under age 21, except "known prostitutes," for prostitution.¹⁸⁰⁵ Sexual relations with a girl under 14 years is against the law and is punishable by imprisonment of 1 to 10 years.¹⁸⁰⁶ Ghanaian law contains specific provisions against trafficking in persons, providing another person for trafficking, and using a trafficked person. Each of these offenses carries a penalty of at least 5 years of imprisonment.¹⁸⁰⁷ The law mandates that police officers respond to all requests for assistance from trafficking and offer protection to persons who report cases of alleged trafficking, even if such a person is not the victim. The law provides for the rescue, temporary shelter and care, counseling, family tracing, and rehabilitation of victims of trafficking; it also establishes a

¹⁷⁹⁷ *The Children's Act*, Sections 89-90.

¹⁷⁹⁸ *Ibid.*, Articles 98-99.

¹⁷⁹⁹ *Ibid.*, Article 88.

¹⁸⁰⁰ *Ibid.*, Article 91.

¹⁸⁰¹ *Ibid.*, Articles 93-94. See also Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Rwanda," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, London, 2004, Articles 60-61; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=791.

¹⁸⁰² *Constitution of Ghana*. See also Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Child Soldiers Global Report 2004," Articles 116-117.

¹⁸⁰³ *Consolidation of Criminal Code, 1960; Act 29*.

¹⁸⁰⁴ ILO Committee of Experts, *Direct Request, Worst Forms of Child Labor Convention, No. 182: Ghana*.

¹⁸⁰⁵ Government of Ghana, *Penal Code*, [previously online] 1960 [cited Act 29, 107 (1) and 108 (1)]; available from <http://209.190.246.239/protectionproject/statutes/PDF/GhanaF.pdf> [hard copy on file]. See also U.S. Embassy-Accra official, Email communication to USDOL official, August 7, 2007.

¹⁸⁰⁶ ECPAT International CSEC Database, *Ghana*, accessed September 24, 2006; available from <http://www.ecpat.net>. See also U.S. Embassy-Accra official, Email communication, August 7, 2007.

¹⁸⁰⁷ Human Rights Watch, *Lasting Wounds: Consequences of Genocide and War on Rwanda's Children*, New York, March 2003, Sections 1-4; available from <http://hrw.org/reports/2003/rwanda0403>.

Human Trafficking Fund to assist victims.¹⁸⁰⁸ The minimum age for military recruitment is 18 years, and there is no conscription.

The Ministry of Manpower, Youth, and Employment is the agency responsible for enforcing child labor laws. District labor officers and other district officials are responsible for conducting annual workplace inspections and investigating allegations of violations. Inspectors must provide employers with information about child labor laws. There were no prosecutions for child labor violations in 2006, and inspections were limited mainly to the formal sector, although most working children are found in the informal sector.¹⁸⁰⁹ According to the U.S. Department of State, enforcement of child labor laws in Ghana was inconsistent and ineffective.¹⁸¹⁰

The Domestic Violence Victim Support Unit of the police is responsible for enforcing anti-trafficking laws. The Ministry of Manpower, Youth, and Employment's Department of Social Welfare is responsible for providing assistance to trafficking victims.¹⁸¹¹

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

In 2006, the Ministry of Manpower, Youth, and Employment released its 5-year National Program for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor in the Cocoa Sector, which is a component of the Government of Ghana's National Timebound Program for Eliminating the Worst Forms of Child Labor. The objective of the national cocoa sector program is to eliminate the worst forms of child labor in cocoa production by 2011, and contribute to the elimination of other worst forms of child labor by 2015.¹⁸¹² The program seeks to accomplish its objective through the following strategies: 1) improve the knowledge base on child labor in cocoa, to help inform the certification and monitoring called for by the Protocol for the Growing and Processing of Cocoa Beans and their Derivative Products (the Harkin-Engel Protocol); 2) strengthen the legal framework, focusing on enforcement of current laws, for addressing the worst forms of child labor in cocoa growing areas; 3) mobilize key stakeholders in cocoa growing areas to collaborate on awareness-raising campaigns and other efforts to eliminate child labor, and particularly the worst forms of child labor; 4) develop and implement interventions that will eliminate the worst forms of child labor in cocoa, thus emphasizing the various stages of the process of cocoa production; 5) promote universal basic education and the development of human capital in cocoa growing areas; 6) develop and implement interventions that will reduce the need for child labor in cocoa production; and 7) build capacity at the central, regional, district, and community levels to effectively address child labor in Ghana, and the worst forms of child labor in cocoa in particular.¹⁸¹³ The program is

¹⁸⁰⁸ Ibid., Sections 10, 14-22.

¹⁸⁰⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Ghana," Section 6d. See also U.S. Embassy- Accra, *Ghana: Update on Worst Forms of Child Labor*, para 3B.

¹⁸¹⁰ U.S. Embassy- Accra, *Ghana: Update on Worst Forms of Child Labor*, para 3B.

¹⁸¹¹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Ghana," Section 5.

¹⁸¹² Ministry of Manpower Youth and Employment and the Ghana Cocoa Board, *National Programme for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor in Cocoa*, iv, vii, 32.

¹⁸¹³ Ibid., vii-viii, 16.

funded by the government, cocoa industry partners, and multilateral and bilateral donors; the Ministry of Manpower, Youth, and Employment is overseeing its implementation.¹⁸¹⁴

The Government of Ghana included child labor as a problem to be addressed in its Growth and Poverty Reduction Strategy for 2006-2009, indicating that priority will be given to special programs to combat the worst forms of child labor, including commercial sexual exploitation and child trafficking.¹⁸¹⁵ The government has released its National Policy Guidelines on Orphans and Other Children Made Vulnerable by HIV/AIDS, which includes children engaged in the worst forms of child labor and street children as target groups.¹⁸¹⁶

In 2006, USDOL awarded a USD 4.3 million contract to Tulane University for a project to oversee public and private efforts to eliminate the worst forms of child labor in the cocoa sector in Ghana and Côte d'Ivoire.¹⁸¹⁷ In partnership with the West African Health Organization, Tulane University will study the health effects on children working in hazardous conditions in the cocoa sector and report to USDOL and Congress annually on the status of child labor monitoring and verification systems, as well as the child labor-free cocoa certification system mandated by the Harkin-Engel Protocol, which should cover a minimum of 50 percent of the cocoa-growing regions in Ghana and Côte d'Ivoire. The Harkin-Engel Protocol is a voluntary agreement signed by the World Cocoa Foundation and the Chocolate Manufacturers Association in September 2001; it is named for Senator Tom Harkin (D-IA) and Representative Eliot Engel (D-NY), whose offices negotiated the agreement and witnessed its signing. Along with a joint statement issued October 1, 2005, the Harkin-Engel Protocol requires the chocolate and cocoa industry to take action to address exploitive child labor, particularly the worst forms, in West Africa's cocoa sector.¹⁸¹⁸

The government collaborates with ILO-IPEC on a 4-year, USD 4.75 million USDOL-funded Project of Support to the Ghana Timebound Program which establishes timeframes for progress on the elimination of selected worst forms of child labor in Ghana. The project aims to withdraw 4,700 children and prevent 5,300 children from exploitive labor through the provision of educational services.¹⁸¹⁹ The government also collaborated with ILO-IPEC on the 4-year, USD 6 million West Africa Child Labor in Agriculture and Cocoa Program (WACAP). This project was funded with USD 5 million from USDOL, and USD 1 million from the International Confectionery Association and ended in April 2006. The WACAP Project withdrew a total of 8,813 children and prevented 2,880 children from exploitive labor in five

¹⁸¹⁴ Ibid., 31.

¹⁸¹⁵ Republic of Ghana National Development Planning Commission, *Growth and Poverty Reduction Strategy (GPRS II) (2006-2009)*, Accra, November 2005; available from [http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INT/PRS1/Resources/GhanaCostingofGPRS_2\(Nov-2005\).pdf](http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INT/PRS1/Resources/GhanaCostingofGPRS_2(Nov-2005).pdf). See also U.S. Embassy- Accra official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, August 15, 2006.

¹⁸¹⁶ Ghana AIDS Commission, *National Policy Guidelines on Orphans and Other Children Made Vulnerable by HIV/AIDS*, Republic of Ghana, January 2005, 17-18.

¹⁸¹⁷ U.S. Department of Labor, *U.S. Labor Department Funds Project to Evaluate Effectiveness of Anti-Child Labor Efforts in the Cocoa Industry*, press release, Washington, DC, October 3, 2006; available from <http://www.dol.gov/opa/media/press/ilab/ILAB20061723.htm>.

¹⁸¹⁸ Ibid.

¹⁸¹⁹ ILO-IPEC, *Support for the Implementation of Timebound Measures for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor in Ghana*, project document.

countries, including Ghana.¹⁸²⁰ The government collaborated with ILO-IPEC on the USD 5.3 million, regional project, Building the Foundations for Eliminating the Worst Forms of Child Labor in Anglophone Africa, funded by USDOL. This project withdrew a total of 6,611 children and prevented 8,061 from exploitive labor in five countries, including Ghana.¹⁸²¹ The government is also participating in the second phase of the regional anti-trafficking LUTRENA project implemented by ILO-IPEC in West and Central Africa with activities in Ghana. The first phase of this project in Ghana was funded by USDOL; the second phase in Ghana is being funded by the Danish International Development Agency.¹⁸²² Ghana also participates in a 5-year, USDOL-funded Reducing Child Labor through Education (CIRCLE 1) global project, being implemented by Winrock International through 2007, which aims to reduce exploitive child labor through the provision of educational opportunities.¹⁸²³ The government also collaborated with ILO-IPEC on the implementation of several other child labor and education projects, including a USD 1.53 million regional project funded by Canada to provide skills training to urban youth.¹⁸²⁴ The government also worked with ILO-IPEC to conduct workshops on the commercial sexual exploitation of children in tourism.¹⁸²⁵ USAID and the international cocoa industry fund the Sustainable Tree Crops Program in Ghana, a public-private partnership that promotes sustainable tree crop systems, including coffee, cocoa, and cashews, and contains a component to prevent and eliminate the worst forms of child labor on farms.¹⁸²⁶

Ghana was one of the ECOWAS/ECASS governments that participated in a Joint Ministerial Conference on Trafficking in Persons held in Nigeria in July 2006. The purpose of the Joint Ministerial Conference was to develop a common understanding of trafficking in West and Central Africa and to adopt a common set of strategies against trafficking in persons, especially women and children. During the Ministerial Conference, Ghana was 1 of 24 ECOWAS/ECASS countries to adopt the Multilateral Cooperation Agreement to Combat Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, in West and Central Africa, and the Joint Plan of Action against Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children in the West and Central African Regions. As part of the Multilateral Cooperation Agreement, governments agreed to put into place a child trafficking monitoring system created by the

¹⁸²⁰ ILO-IPEC, *West Africa Cocoa/Commercial Agriculture Program to Combat Hazardous and Exploitative Child Labour (WACAP)*, final technical progress report, Geneva, June 2006. See also ILO-IPEC, *WACAP, project document*, 1, 7. See also USDOL, *West Africa Cocoa/Commercial Agriculture Program to Combat Hazardous and Exploitative Child Labour (WACAP)*, project summary.

¹⁸²¹ ILO-IPEC, *Building the Foundations for Eliminating the Worst Forms of Child Labour in Anglophone Africa*, technical progress report, Geneva, February 28, 2006. See also ILO-IPEC, *Building the Foundations for Eliminating the Worst Forms of Child Labour in Anglophone Africa*, technical progress report.

¹⁸²² ILO-IPEC, *Combating the Trafficking of Children for Labor Exploitation in West and Central Africa (LUTRENA)* project document, Geneva. See also ILO-IPEC, *Combating the Trafficking of Children for Labor Exploitation in West and Central Africa (LUTRENA, Phase II, III, IV)*, technical progress report, Geneva, September 1, 2005. See also ILO-IPEC Geneva official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, November 16, 2006.

¹⁸²³ Winrock International, *Project Fact Sheet: Reducing Child Labor through Education (CIRCLE 1)*, [online] n.d. [cited October 13, 2006]; available from <http://www.winrock.org/fact/facts.asp?CC=5411&bu=>.

¹⁸²⁴ ILO-IPEC Geneva official, E-mail communication, November 16, 2006.

¹⁸²⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Ghana," Section 5.

¹⁸²⁶ USAID, "Chocolate Companies Help West African Farmers Improve Harvest," *USAID Frontlines*, September 2005; available from http://www.usaid.gov/press/frontlines/fl_sep05/pillars.htm#4. See also International Institute of Tropical Agriculture, *Sustainable Tree Crops Program*, [online] March 20, 2006 [cited April 7, 2007]; available from <http://www.trecrops.org/index.htm>.

LUTRENA project to improve management and control of borders, including ensuring that birth certificates and travel identity documents cannot easily be falsified or altered; to assist each other in the investigation, arrest and prosecution of trafficking offenders; to protect, rehabilitate and reintegrate trafficking victims; and to improve educational systems, vocational training, and apprenticeships.¹⁸²⁷

Ghana's police academy training includes a trafficking component, and the government, through its Department of Social Welfare, operates two facilities for rescued child victims of trafficking. The government signed a Memorandum of Understanding with IOM in 2006 to set up a new rehabilitation center for child victims of trafficking.¹⁸²⁸ The government also collaborated with IOM on the implementation of the Yeji Trafficked Children Project, which works with fishermen, children, and parents to remove children from exploitive labor in fishing on Lake Volta, and to rehabilitate, return and reintegrate them into their communities. The project, funded by the U.S. Department of State, also works with at-risk communities to prevent child trafficking through the provision of material assistance and awareness-raising campaigns.¹⁸²⁹

¹⁸²⁷ ECOWAS and ECCAS, *Multilateral Cooperation Agreement to Combat Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children in West and Central Africa*, Abuja, July 6, 2006. See also U.S. Department of State official, Email communication to USDOL official, March 23, 2007. See also Emmanuel Goujon, *African States Sign up to Fight Human Trafficking*, press release, Agence France Presse, Abuja, July 7, 2006.

¹⁸²⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report - 2006: Ghana."

¹⁸²⁹ International Organization for Migration- Ghana, *What We Do: Counter Trafficking*, [online] 2007 [cited April 10, 2007]; available from <http://www.iom.int/ghana/countertraffick.html>. See also International Organization for Migration, "Combating Child Trafficking: Freeing the Fishing Children of Ghana," *Newsletter*, January 2007; available from http://www.iom.int/jahia/webdav/site/myjahiasite/shared/shared/mainsite/projects/showcase_pdf/ghana_ct_update.pdf. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Ghana," Section 5.

Grenada

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

No changes have been recorded since the last reporting period regarding the incidence and nature of child labor in Grenada.*

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:	92% ¹⁸³⁰
Net primary enrollment rate in 2004:	84% ¹⁸³¹

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

No changes have been recorded since the last reporting period regarding child labor laws and enforcement in Grenada.*

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

Research has not identified any policies or programs by the Government of Grenada to address exploitive child labor.

* For more information, please refer to the U.S. Department of Labor's *2005 Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labor*.

¹⁸³⁰ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

¹⁸³¹ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Rate. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

³ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Rate. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

Guatemala

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2000, approximately 21 percent of boys and 11.1 percent of girls ages 5 to 14 were working in Guatemala.¹⁸⁴³ The majority of working children were found in the agricultural sector (62.6 percent), followed by services (23.4 percent), manufacturing (10.7 percent), and other sectors (3.2 percent). The majority of children

participating in the labor force are of indigenous heritage and from rural areas.¹⁸⁴⁴ On average, children in the labor force work 6.5 hours per day and 5 days per week.¹⁸⁴⁵ Child labor mostly occurs in the informal sector and in small family enterprises.¹⁸⁴⁶

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children ages 5-14 estimated as working in 2000:	16.1% ¹⁸³²
Minimum age for admission to work:	14 ¹⁸³³
Age to which education is compulsory:	15 ¹⁸³⁴
Free public education:	Yes ¹⁸³⁵
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:	113% ¹⁸³⁶
Net primary enrollment rate in 2004:	93% ¹⁸³⁷
Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 2000:	65.5% ¹⁸³⁸
As of 2003, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	78% ¹⁸³⁹
Ratified Convention 138:	4/27/1990 ¹⁸⁴⁰
Ratified Convention 182:	10/11/2001 ¹⁸⁴¹
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Yes ¹⁸⁴²

¹⁸³² UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, October 7, 2005.

¹⁸³³ Government of Guatemala, *Código de Trabajo de la República de Guatemala*, Article 148; available from <http://www.geocities.com/organiz.geo/otro/1/lguatemala.html>. See also Government of Guatemala, *Constitution*, (May 31, 1985, reformed November 17, 1993), Article 102; available from <http://www.georgetown.edu/pdba/Constitutions/Guate/guate93.html>.

¹⁸³⁴ Government of Guatemala, *Constitution, 1985*, Article 74. See also UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Table 1: Education Systems*, accessed May 29, 2007 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/TableViewer/tableView.aspx?ReportId=210>.

¹⁸³⁵ Government of Guatemala, *Constitution, 1985*.

¹⁸³⁶ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

¹⁸³⁷ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Rate. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

¹⁸³⁸ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

¹⁸³⁹ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Survival Rate to Grade 5. Total*, accessed December 18, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

¹⁸⁴⁰ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, accessed December 29, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/docs/declworld.htm>.

¹⁸⁴¹ *Ibid.*

¹⁸⁴² ILO, *Ficha País: Guatemala*, [online] 2006 [cited December 29, 2006]; available from http://www.oit.org.pe/ippec/documentos/ficha_pais_gua.pdf.

¹⁸⁴³ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

¹⁸⁴⁴ Ministry of Labor and Social Security, *Plan Nacional para la Prevención y Erradicación del Trabajo Infantil y Protección a la Adolescencia Trabajadora, Guatemala*, 2001, 6-7; available from

Guatemalan children are victims of trafficking and sexual exploitation across the country, especially in the border areas. Street children tend to be especially vulnerable to trafficking; they have been recruited to steal, participate in illegal drug activities, and transport contraband. Migrant minors unable to cross the border with Mexico remain in border towns and are forced into prostitution. Children are also forced into begging on the streets and are trafficked to Mexico to work at municipal dumps.¹⁸⁴⁷

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The Constitution and the labor code set the minimum age for employment at 14 years.¹⁸⁴⁸ In some exceptional cases, the Labor Inspectorate can issue work permits to children under 14, provided that the work is related to an apprenticeship, is light and of short duration and intensity, is necessary because of extreme poverty of the child's family, and does not interfere with the child's ability to meet compulsory education requirements.¹⁸⁴⁹ Minors aged 14 to 17 are prohibited from working at night, working overtime, performing unhealthy and dangerous tasks, or working in bars or other establishments where alcoholic beverages are served.¹⁸⁵⁰ The workday for minors less than 14 years is limited to 6 hours per day or 36 hours per week; minors ages 14 to 17 may work a maximum of 7 hours per day or 42 hours per week.¹⁸⁵¹ The Municipality of Guatemala prohibits minors under 18 years from working at waste disposal sites in Guatemala City.¹⁸⁵² In May 2006, a governmental agreement went into effect, which determined the worst forms of child labor in Guatemala, established sanctions for violations, and called for inter-institutional coordination to combat the problem.¹⁸⁵³

The law prohibits child pornography and prostitution. Procuring and inducing a minor to engage in prostitution are crimes that can result in fines and 6 years of imprisonment; the penalty increases by two-thirds if the victim is younger than 12 years.¹⁸⁵⁴ Trafficking is prohibited, with penalties of 7 to 12 years of incarceration. Punishments are increased by one-

http://www.oit.org.pe/ipecc/documentos/plan_eti_gt.pdf. See also U.S. Department of State, "Guatemala," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 6d; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78893.htm>.

¹⁸⁴⁵ ILO-IPEC, *Estudio Cualitativo Sobre el Trabajo Infantil en Guatemala: Informe Final*, Guatemala City, April 2003, 40, Cuadro No. 14; available from

http://www.ilo.org/public/spanish/standards/ipecc/simnoc/guatemala/report/gt_2003.pdf.

¹⁸⁴⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Guatemala," Section 6d.

¹⁸⁴⁷ U.S. Embassy - Guatemala City, *reporting*, March 8, 2007.

¹⁸⁴⁸ Government of Guatemala, *Constitution, 1985*, Article 102. See also Government of Guatemala, *Código de Trabajo*, Article 148.

¹⁸⁴⁹ Government of Guatemala, *Código de Trabajo*, Article 150.

¹⁸⁵⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Guatemala," Section 6d. See also *Código de Trabajo de la República de Guatemala, 1996*, 148.

¹⁸⁵¹ Government of Guatemala, *Código de Trabajo*, Articles 116, 149.

¹⁸⁵² ILO NATLEX, *Acuerdo 006-2005 Consejo Municipal 2005* [cited December 15 2006]; available from

http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/natlex_browse.details?p_lang=es&p_country=GTM&p_classification=04&p_origin=COUNTRY&p_sortby=SORTBY_COUNTRY.

¹⁸⁵³ ILO NATLEX, *Acuerdo gubernativo 250-2006*, 2006 [cited December 15 2006]; available from

http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/natlex_browse.details?p_lang=es&p_country=GTM&p_classification=04&p_origin=COUNTRY&p_sortby=SORTBY_COUNTRY.

¹⁸⁵⁴ Government of Guatemala, *Código Penal*, Articles 188-189; available from

http://www.oas.org/JURIDICO/MLA/sp/gtm/sp_gtm-int-text-cp.pdf.

third if the victim is a minor.¹⁸⁵⁵ Guatemalan law prohibits forced or compulsory labor, including by children.¹⁸⁵⁶ Legislation adopted as part of the Peace Accords protects children under 18 from military recruitment and deployment into armed conflicts. However, starting at 16, children can carry out national service in special projects.¹⁸⁵⁷

The Ministry of Labor's Child Workers Protection Unit is responsible for enforcing child labor regulations as well as educating children, parents, and employers regarding the labor rights of minors.¹⁸⁵⁸ According to the U.S. Department of State, funding for child labor prevention programs is insufficient.¹⁸⁵⁹ The Ministry of Foreign Affairs leads the Inter-Institutional Commission to Combat Trafficking in Persons. The Public Ministry operates the Office of Special Prosecutor for Crimes against Women, Children and Victims of Trafficking. This office has formed a task force with immigration authorities, the National Civilian Police (PNC), international organizations, and local NGOs, including Casa Alianza, which conducted a number of bar raids in 2005.¹⁸⁶⁰ Their joint operations led to 35 arrests for commercial sexual exploitation of minors.¹⁸⁶¹ The government also participated in anti-TIP raids in collaboration with civil society groups to rescue minors from sexual exploitation in brothels and bars.¹⁸⁶² Nonetheless, according to a NGO study cited by the U.S. Department of State, immigration officials reportedly took bribes to facilitate traffickers' movement of children across Guatemala's border, and brothel owners allowed police and immigration officials to have sex with minors without charge.¹⁸⁶³ A former National Police official, Rudy Giron Lima, owned three bars involved in the prostitution of minors, but there have been no further developments in the criminal investigation of this case.¹⁸⁶⁴ There were no prosecutions or convictions of public officials involved in the trafficking of minors as of early 2006.¹⁸⁶⁵

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Government of Guatemala, through its National Commission for the Elimination of Child Labor, is implementing the National Plan for the Prevention and Eradication of Child Labor and the Protection of the Adolescent Worker.¹⁸⁶⁶ The government is also implementing the

¹⁸⁵⁵ U.S. Embassy - Guatemala City, *reporting*, February 7, 2005. See also ILO NATLEX, *Decreto núm. 14-2005 por el que se reforma el Artículo 194 del Código Penal (Trata de Personas)*. 2005 [cited December 15 2006]; available from http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/natlex_browse.details?p_lang=en&p_isn=74634.

¹⁸⁵⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Guatemala," Section 6c.

¹⁸⁵⁷ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Guatemala," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, London, 2004; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=827.

¹⁸⁵⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Guatemala," Section 6d.

¹⁸⁵⁹ *Ibid.*

¹⁸⁶⁰ *Ibid.*, Section 5. See also U.S. Department of State, "Guatemala (Tier 2)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/65988.htm>.

¹⁸⁶¹ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Guatemala."

¹⁸⁶² U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Guatemala," Section 5.

¹⁸⁶³ *Ibid.*

¹⁸⁶⁴ *Ibid.*

¹⁸⁶⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Guatemala."

¹⁸⁶⁶ ILO, *Ficha País: Guatemala*. See also Ministry of Labor and Social Security, *Plan de acción. Comité Técnico de Seguimiento para la prevención y erradicación del trabajo infantil doméstico.*, 2005; available from

National Plan of Action against the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children and Adolescents in Guatemala.¹⁸⁶⁷

The Government of Guatemala is currently participating in a number of ILO-IPEC implemented projects. These projects include a USD 8.7 million USDOL-funded project to combat the commercial sexual exploitation of children in Central America, Panama, and the Dominican Republic. This project targets 713 children for withdrawal and 657 children for prevention from trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation throughout the region. The project includes activities to remove and prevent children from exploitive work, as well as awareness raising, institutional capacity building, and regional and national coordination in Guatemala.¹⁸⁶⁸ A USD 2.7 million ILO-IPEC project, funded by the Government of Italy, combats child labor in the garbage dump sector. The Government of Guatemala also participates in a Canadian-supported USD 500,000 ILO-IPEC project focused on combating child labor through strengthening labor ministries and worker organizations, and it participates in a USD 14 million regional ILO-IPEC project funded by Spain.¹⁸⁶⁹ As part of an effort to build capacity to improve labor law compliance among the CAFTA-DR partners, USDOL is providing USD 2.85 million for a project to strengthen outreach efforts in the agriculture sector in the region, where child labor is a serious problem. In addition, the Government of Guatemala participates in a USD 5.7 million USDOL-funded regional Central America project implemented by CARE to combat exploitive child labor through the provision of education.¹⁸⁷⁰ The project targets 470 children for withdrawal and 1,410 children for prevention from work in exploitive child labor, and aims to strengthen government and civil society's capacity to combat child labor through education.¹⁸⁷¹

During 2006, the Secretariat of Social Welfare, a government agency, operated four shelters that provided services to trafficking victims, including job training and counseling.

http://www.oit.org.pe/ipec/documentos/planguatemalafinal_1.pdf. See also Ministry of Labor and Social Security, *Plan Nacional para la Prevención y Erradicación del Trabajo Infantil*.

¹⁸⁶⁷ ECPAT International CSEC Database, *Guatemala*, accessed October 17, 2006; available from <http://www.ecpat.net>.

¹⁸⁶⁸ U.S. Department of Labor, *Contribution to the Prevention and Elimination of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children in Central America, Panama and the Dominican Republic*, project summary 2005.

¹⁸⁶⁹ ILO-IPEC, E-mail communication to USDOL official, November 3, 2006.

¹⁸⁷⁰ CARE, *CARE's Work: Project Information*, [online] 2004 [cited October 17, 2006]; available from <http://www.careusa.org/careswork/projects/SLV041.asp>.

¹⁸⁷¹ U.S. Department of Labor, *Combating Child Labor Through Education in Central America*, 2004.

Guinea

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

The majority of working children in Guinea are found in the informal sector, carrying out activities such as subsistence farming, small-scale commerce, and mining.¹⁸⁸³ Children also work in granite and sand quarries as well as apprentices to mechanics, electricians, and plumbers.¹⁸⁸⁴ Girls younger than 14 years old are exploited in prostitution.¹⁸⁸⁵

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working:	Unavailable ¹⁸⁷²
Minimum age for admission to work:	16 ¹⁸⁷³
Age to which education is compulsory:	7-14 ¹⁸⁷⁴
Free public education:	Yes ^{1875*}
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:	79% ¹⁸⁷⁶
Net primary enrollment rate in 2004:	64% ¹⁸⁷⁷
Percent of children 5-14 attending school:	Unavailable ¹⁸⁷⁸
As of 2003, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	82% ¹⁸⁷⁹
Ratified Convention 138:	6/6/2003 ¹⁸⁸⁰
Ratified Convention 182:	6/6/2003 ¹⁸⁸¹
ILO-IPEC Participating Country:	Yes, associated ¹⁸⁸²
* In practice, must pay for school fees.	

Guinea is a source, transit, and destination country for trafficking in persons. Children are trafficked for forced labor in agriculture, mining, begging, and domestic work.¹⁸⁸⁶ Girls are also

¹⁸⁷² UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, October 7, 2005.

¹⁸⁷³ Government of Guinea, *Code du travail de la République de Guinée*, 1988, Article 5.

¹⁸⁷⁴ UNESCO, "Regional Overview: Sub-Saharan Africa," in *Global Monitoring Report 2003/4: Gender and Education for All*, Paris, 2004; available from http://www.unesco.org/education/efa_report/zoom_regions_pdf/ssafrica.pdf.

¹⁸⁷⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Guinea," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78738.htm>.

¹⁸⁷⁶ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

¹⁸⁷⁷ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Rate. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

¹⁸⁷⁸ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Survival Rate to Grade 5. Total*, accessed December 18, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

¹⁸⁷⁹ Ibid.

¹⁸⁸⁰ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, accessed October 23, 2006; available from http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/cgi-lex/ratifice.pl?Guinea_.

¹⁸⁸¹ Ibid.

¹⁸⁸² ILO-IPEC, *IPEC Action Against Child Labor - Highlights 2006*, Geneva, 2006; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ipcc/prod/eng/20070228_Implementationreport_en_Web.pdf.

¹⁸⁸³ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Guinea," Section 6d, UNICEF, *Situation des enfants et des femmes, programme de coopération 2002-2006, République de Guinée*, Conakry, 2000, p 83-84.

¹⁸⁸⁴ UNICEF, *Situation Des Enfants et Des Femmes*, p 84.

¹⁸⁸⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Guinea," Section 5.

trafficked for sexual exploitation.¹⁸⁸⁷ The majority of girls trafficked to Guinea are from Nigeria, Ghana, Mali, and Burkina Faso. Some also come from Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, and Senegal.¹⁸⁸⁸

Displacement of civilians occurred after many years of conflict in neighboring countries. Guinean children in the forest regions of the country who have been displaced are especially vulnerable to sexual and economic exploitation. UNICEF discovered several unaccompanied minors from Sierra Leone and Liberia, who were being forced to work in plantations, mines, and private homes, in N'Zerekore and Kissidougou.¹⁸⁸⁹

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum age for employment at 16 years, except with the consent of authorities,¹⁸⁹⁰ and excludes anyone under 14 years from being apprenticed.¹⁸⁹¹ Workers less than 18 years are not permitted to work at night or for more than 10 consecutive hours per day. The law prohibits forced or bonded labor and hazardous work by children under 18 years. Hazardous work is defined as any work likely to endanger the health, safety, or morals of children. The Ministry of Labor determines which jobs are considered hazardous. Violations of these laws are punishable by fines and sentences of 8 days to 2 months in prison.¹⁸⁹²

Trafficking in persons is prohibited by law, as is procurement or solicitation for the purposes of prostitution. Violation of the procurement or solicitation law can result in imprisonment for 2 to 5 years when the crime involves a minor less than 18 years. The U.S. Department of State reports that the government has not actively monitored child or adult prostitution or taken action when the prostitution of minors was brought to its attention.¹⁸⁹³ The penalty for trafficking is 5 to 10 years of imprisonment and the confiscation of money or property received through trafficking activities. However, according to the U.S. Department of State, the Guinean courts have not yet been known to prosecute a trafficking case.¹⁸⁹⁴ The official age for voluntary recruitment or conscription into the armed forces is 18 years.¹⁸⁹⁵

While the government spoke out against child labor, according to the U.S. Department of State, it lacked the financial and legislative resources to combat it.¹⁸⁹⁶

¹⁸⁸⁶ Ibid.

¹⁸⁸⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Guinea," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/65988.htm>.

¹⁸⁸⁸ U.S. Embassy- Conakry, *reporting*, March 2, 2007, para 1b.

¹⁸⁸⁹ U.S. Embassy- Conakry official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, August 11, 2006.

¹⁸⁹⁰ Government of Guinea, *Code du travail*, 1988, Article 5.

¹⁸⁹¹ Ibid., Article 31.

¹⁸⁹² Ibid., Articles 2, 186, 187, and 205.

¹⁸⁹³ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Guinea," Section 5. See also Government of Guinea, *Penal Code*, [previously online], Article 289; available from <http://www.protectionproject.org>.

¹⁸⁹⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Guinea," Section 5. See also U.S. Embassy- Conakry, *reporting*, November 14, 2005.

¹⁸⁹⁵ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Guinea," London, 2004; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=777.

¹⁸⁹⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Guinea," Section 6d.

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

In July 2006, Guinea was 1 of 24 countries to adopt the Multilateral Cooperative Agreement to Combat Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children, in West and Central Africa and the Joint Plan of Action against Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children in the West and Central African Regions. As part of the Multilateral Cooperative Agreement, the governments agreed to put into place the child trafficking monitoring system developed by the USDOL-funded ILO-IPEC LUTRENA project; to ensure that birth certificates and travel identity documents cannot easily be falsified or altered; to provide assistance to each other in the investigation, arrest and prosecution of trafficking offenders; to protect, rehabilitate, and reintegrate trafficking victims; and to improve educational systems, vocational training and apprenticeships.¹⁸⁹⁷ Guinea also has a national action plan to combat trafficking and, as part of this, has launched a national information campaign.¹⁸⁹⁸ Sixteen ministries are involved in the fight against trafficking, coordinating via a National Committee to Combat Trafficking in Persons. The Ministry of Social Affairs and the Promotion of Women and Children heads this committee, which has limited effectiveness because of severe resource constraints.¹⁸⁹⁹

Between 2002 and 2006, Guinea participated in a USDOL-funded ILO-IPEC regional project to combat hazardous and exploitative child labor in the cocoa sector, West Africa Cocoa/Commercial Agriculture Programme (WACAP), in which 799 children in Guinea were withdrawn and prevented from exploitive labor through the provision of education or training opportunities.¹⁹⁰⁰ The government also takes part in a 4-year USD 4 million USDOL-funded education initiative, which targets the withdrawal and prevention from exploitive labor of 4,800 children.¹⁹⁰¹

¹⁸⁹⁷ ECOWAS and ECASS, *Multilateral Cooperation Agreement to Combat Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, in West and Central Africa*, Abuja, July 7, 2006. See also ILO-IPEC, *Combating the Trafficking of Children for Labour Exploitation in West and Central Africa (LUTRENA)*, technical progress report, Washington, DC, September 1, 2006.

¹⁸⁹⁸ U.S. Embassy- Conakry, *reporting, March 2, 2007*, para 2C.

¹⁸⁹⁹ *Ibid.*, para 2B.

¹⁹⁰⁰ ILO-IPEC, *West Africa Cocoa/Commercial Agriculture Programme to Combat Hazardous and Exploitative Child Labour (WACAP) Final Technical Progress Report, Annex 4*, technical progress report, Geneva, June 2006.

¹⁹⁰¹ Save the Children, *Combating Exploitive Child Labor through Education (CCLEE)*, technical progress report, Washington, DC September 28, 2006.

Guinea-Bissau

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2000, approximately 64.4 percent of boys and 64.0 percent of girls ages 5 to 14 were working in Guinea-Bissau.¹⁹¹² Most working children can be found in the informal sector.¹⁹¹³ In urban areas many children work as street vendors.¹⁹¹⁴ Children also work as shoe shiners and car washers.¹⁹¹⁵ Many serve as trade apprentices in workshops where they may perform hazardous work such

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 2000:	64.2% ¹⁹⁰²
Minimum age for admission to work:	14 ¹⁹⁰³
Age to which education is compulsory:	12 ¹⁹⁰⁴
Free public education:	Yes ¹⁹⁰⁵
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2001:	70% ¹⁹⁰⁶
Net primary enrollment rate in 2001:	45% ¹⁹⁰⁷
Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 2000:	37.3% ¹⁹⁰⁸
Percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	Unavailable
Ratified Convention 138:	No ¹⁹⁰⁹
Ratified Convention 182:	No ¹⁹¹⁰
ILO-IPEC participating country:	No ¹⁹¹¹
*Must pay for school supplies and related items.	

¹⁹⁰² UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, March 1, 2007.

¹⁹⁰³ General Labor Inspectorate official, Interview with USDOL consultant, May 26, 2006.

¹⁹⁰⁴ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Ending Age of Compulsory Education*, accessed October 21, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

¹⁹⁰⁵ UNESCO Institute for Statistics Education for All Global Monitoring Report, *Access to Primary Education*, accessed October 22, 2006; available from <http://gmr.uis.unesco.org>. See also Ministry of Education official, Interview with USDOL consultant, June 14, 2006. See also Cooperation and Development official, Interview with USDOL consultant, June 12, 2006.

¹⁹⁰⁶ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

¹⁹⁰⁷ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Rate. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

¹⁹⁰⁸ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

¹⁹⁰⁹ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, accessed October 19, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/newratframeE.htm>.

¹⁹¹⁰ Ibid.

¹⁹¹¹ ILO, *IPEC Action Against Child Labour; Highlights 2006*, Geneva, October 2006, 29; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ipcc/prod/eng/20070228_Implementationreport_en_Web.pdf.

¹⁹¹² UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

¹⁹¹³ General Labor Inspectorate official, Interview, May 26, 2006. See also Industry Chamber of Commerce, and Agriculture official, Interview with USDOL consultant, June 7, 2006.

¹⁹¹⁴ African Young Workers and Children Movement representative, Interview with USDOL consultant, May 24, 2006. See also ILO official, Interview with USDOL consultant, May 26, 2006.

¹⁹¹⁵ African Young Workers and Children Movement representative, Interview, May 24, 2006. See also Network of Young Educators official, Interview with USDOL consultant, May 25, 2006. See also Independent Consultant, Interview with USDOL consultant, June 5, 2006.

as that involving metallurgy, mechanics or carpentry.¹⁹¹⁶ Some children, including orphans, live with other families as unpaid domestic servants.¹⁹¹⁷ In rural areas, children perform unpaid farming and cattle herding.¹⁹¹⁸ For four months, during the annual cashew harvest, some children are partly or completely withdrawn from school to work in the fields.¹⁹¹⁹

Girls are sometimes exploited as prostitutes in Guinea-Bissau, but the extent of this problem is unknown.¹⁹²⁰ Children, primarily boys, are trafficked for begging and agricultural labor. Most come from the Bafata and Gabu regions and are trafficked to Senegal; some are sent to other locations such as Mali and Guinea.¹⁹²¹ Some children are sent by their parents from rural to urban areas to attend Koranic schools where some are exploited and forced to beg or shine shoes to earn money for the school masters.¹⁹²² Some teachers also require children to do agricultural work on plantations.¹⁹²³ To a lesser extent, children from neighboring Guinea may also be trafficked to Guinea-Bissau.¹⁹²⁴

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The minimum age for employment is set at 14 years. For heavy or dangerous labor, including work in mines, the minimum age is 18 years.¹⁹²⁵ Working minors may not work overtime and must have fulfilled the compulsory education requirements, except in areas where no schools are available. Fines are established for violations of Labor Code provisions involving

¹⁹¹⁶ African Young Workers and Children Movement representative, Interview, May 24, 2006. See also Network of Young Educators official, Interview, May 25, 2006. See also Cooperation and Development official, Interview, June 12, 2006.

¹⁹¹⁷ African Young Workers and Children Movement representative, Interview, May 24, 2006. See also Association for Children's Rights official, Interview with USDOL consultant, June 6, 2006. See also Cooperation and Development official, Interview, June 12, 2006.

¹⁹¹⁸ Independent Consultant, Interview, June 5, 2006. See also Cooperation and Development official, Interview, June 12, 2006. See also Guinea-Bissau official PLAN International, Interview with USDOL consultant, June 13, 2006. See also U.S. Department of State, "Guinea-Bissau," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 6d; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78739.htm>.

¹⁹¹⁹ U.S. Embassy- Dakar, *reporting*, August 2, 2004, para 2. See also Association for Children's Rights official, Interview, June 6, 2006. See also Cooperation and Development official, Interview, June 12, 2006. See also PLAN International, Interview, June 13, 2006. See also Ministry of Education official, Interview, June 14, 2006.

¹⁹²⁰ General Labor Inspectorate official, Interview, May 26, 2006. See also Independent Consultant, Interview, June 5, 2006. See also Association of Friends of Children official, Interview with USDOL consultant, June 6, 2006. See also PLAN International, Interview, June 13, 2006. See also ECPAT International CSEC Database, *Guinea-Bissau*, accessed October 18, 2006; available from <http://www.ecpat.net>. See also U.S. Embassy- Dakar, *reporting*, August 2, 2004, para 1.

¹⁹²¹ U.S. Embassy- Dakar, *reporting*, February 28, 2007.

¹⁹²² Ibid. See also African Young Workers and Children Movement representative, Interview, May 24, 2006. See also Network of Young Educators official, Interview, May 25, 2006. See also Laudolino Carlos Medina, Executive Secretary of the Association of Friends of Children, Interview with USDOL Consultant, June 6, 2006.

¹⁹²³ U.S. Embassy- Dakar, *reporting*, February 28, 2007.

¹⁹²⁴ Independent Consultant, Interview, June 5, 2006. See also Cooperation and Development official, Interview, June 12, 2006. See also PLAN International, Interview, June 13, 2006.

¹⁹²⁵ General Labor Inspectorate official, Interview, May 26, 2006. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Guinea-Bissau," Section 6d.

children.¹⁹²⁶ However, the Code applies only to certain kinds of work that involve wage payments and may not apply to many types of work performed by children.¹⁹²⁷

Prostitution is illegal, as is the use of violence, threats, or other coercive actions to transport victims to foreign countries.¹⁹²⁸ The practices of selling and kidnapping of children are also criminal offenses.¹⁹²⁹ Laws against kidnapping and removal of minors, sexual exploitation, and abuse may be used to prosecute trafficking cases.¹⁹³⁰ To prevent trafficking, the law requires that persons traveling with children outside of the country submit their personal identification documents as well as the identification documents of the children's parents or of the children.¹⁹³¹ Boys under 16 years may volunteer for the armed forces with the consent of their parents or tutors; the compulsory recruitment age is 18.¹⁹³² Forced child labor is prohibited.¹⁹³³

According to the U.S. Department of State, although age requirements are generally respected in the formal sector, these requirements were not enforced by the Ministries of Justice or Civil Service and Labor in the informal sector.¹⁹³⁴ Child labor violations are not prosecuted in courts, as there is a lack of child labor inspectors or awareness regarding relevant laws. Perpetrators often flee before court hearings, as many victims believe that they will incur related financial costs, although the Public Prosecution Service may provide a lawyer at no cost for those who cannot afford one.¹⁹³⁵ The Ministry of Interior has an inspector responsible for crimes against children who coordinates law enforcement efforts on trafficking. The government has detained suspected traffickers, but there have been no trafficking prosecutions.¹⁹³⁶ The U.S. Department of State reports that deference to religious teachers and some instances of corruption negatively affect the enforcement of laws regarding child trafficking.¹⁹³⁷

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Government of Guinea-Bissau, including its embassy in Senegal, cooperates with Senegalese authorities to provide trafficking victims with services. During 2006, the

¹⁹²⁶ General Labor Inspectorate official, Interview, May 26, 2006. See also ILO official, Interview, May 26, 2006.

¹⁹²⁷ General Labor Inspectorate official, Interview, May 26, 2006.

¹⁹²⁸ U.S. Embassy- Dakar, *reporting*, February 28, 2007. See also UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Initial reports of States parties due in 1992, Guinea-Bissau, CRC/C/3/Add.63*, prepared by Government of Guinea-Bissau, pursuant to Article 44 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, July 26, 2001, para. 259.

¹⁹²⁹ UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Initial Reports of States Parties*, para 263.

¹⁹³⁰ U.S. Embassy- Dakar, *reporting*, February 28, 2007.

¹⁹³¹ UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Initial Reports of States Parties*, para. 176.

¹⁹³² *Ibid.*, para. 137.

¹⁹³³ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Guinea-Bissau," Section 6c.

¹⁹³⁴ *Ibid.*, Section 6d.

¹⁹³⁵ Network of Young Educators official, Interview, May 25, 2006. See also Children Guardianship official, Interview with USDOL consultant, May 30, 2006.

¹⁹³⁶ U.S. Embassy- Dakar, *reporting*, February 28, 2007.

¹⁹³⁷ *Ibid.* See also U.S. Department of State, "Guinea-Bissau (Tier 2)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/>.

government repatriated 92 trafficked children from Senegal.¹⁹³⁸ It also provides funding to a local NGO whose efforts include eradicating child trafficking.¹⁹³⁹

In July 2006, 24 of the 26 governments represented in ECOWAS and the ECASS participated in a Joint Ministerial Conference on Trafficking in Persons held in Nigeria to develop a common understanding of trafficking in West and Central Africa and to adopt a common set of strategies against trafficking in persons, especially women and children. During the Ministerial Conference, Guinea-Bissau was 1 of 24 countries to adopt the Multilateral Cooperative Agreement to Combat Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, in West and Central Africa and the Joint Plan of Action against Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children in the West and Central African Regions.¹⁹⁴⁰ As part of the Multilateral Cooperative Agreement, the governments agreed to put into place the child trafficking monitoring system developed by the USDOL-funded ILO-IPEC LUTRENA project; ensure that birth certificates and travel identity documents cannot easily be falsified or altered; provide assistance to each other in the investigation, arrest and prosecution of trafficking offenders; protect, rehabilitate, and reintegrate trafficking victims; and improve educational systems, vocational training and apprenticeships.¹⁹⁴¹

¹⁹³⁸ U.S. Embassy- Dakar, *reporting*, February 28, 2007.

¹⁹³⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Guinea-Bissau." See also U.S. Embassy- Dakar, *reporting*, December 15, 2006. See also Association of Friends of Children official, Interview, June 6, 2006.

¹⁹⁴⁰ ECOWAS and ECASS, *Multilateral Cooperation Agreement to Combat Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, in West and Central Africa*, Abuja, July 7, 2006. See also Catholic Relief Services official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, October 2, 2006.

¹⁹⁴¹ ECOWAS and ECASS, *Multilateral Cooperation Agreement to Combat Trafficking in Persons in West and Central Africa*. See also ILO-IPEC, *Combating the Trafficking of Children for Labour Exploitation in West and Central Africa (LUTRENA)*, technical progress report, Geneva, September 1, 2006. See also Emmanuel Goujon, "African States Sign up to Fight Human Trafficking," *Agence France-Presse*, July 7, 2006.

Guyana

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2000 in Guyana, approximately 28.7 percent of boys 5 to 14 years were estimated to be working compared to 23.9 percent of girls in the same age group.¹⁹⁵³ Children work as porters, domestic servants, street vendors, and wait staff in bars and restaurants.¹⁹⁵⁴ Some are found working in sawmills, markets, mining, and the illicit drug trade.¹⁹⁵⁵ Guyanese girls are reported to be trafficked for sexual exploitation within Guyana and to neighboring countries.¹⁹⁵⁶ There are reports of child prostitution.¹⁹⁵⁷

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 2000:	26.3% ¹⁹⁴²
Minimum age for admission to work:	15 ¹⁹⁴³
Age to which education is compulsory:	15 ¹⁹⁴⁴
Free public education:	Yes ¹⁹⁴⁵
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:	129% ¹⁹⁴⁶
Net primary enrollment rate in 2002:	93% ¹⁹⁴⁷
Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 2000:	95.8% ¹⁹⁴⁸
As of 2001, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	64% ¹⁹⁴⁹
Ratified Convention 138:	4/15/1998 ¹⁹⁵⁰
Ratified Convention 182:	1/15/2001 ¹⁹⁵¹
ILO-IPEC Member:	Yes, associated ¹⁹⁵²

¹⁹⁴² UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, March 1, 2007.

¹⁹⁴³ Clive Pegus, *A Review of Child Labour Laws of Guyana - a Guide to Legislative Reform*, ILO Subregional Office for the Caribbean, June 2005, Section 4.2.1.

¹⁹⁴⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Guyana," in *Country Report on Human Rights Practices- 2005*, Washington, D.C., March 8, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2005/61730htm>.

¹⁹⁴⁵ *Ibid.*, Section 5.

¹⁹⁴⁶ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, March 8, 2007; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

¹⁹⁴⁷ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Rate. Primary. Total*, March 8, 2007; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

¹⁹⁴⁸ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

¹⁹⁴⁹ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Survival Rate to Grade Five. Total*, March 8, 2007; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

¹⁹⁵⁰ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, accessed October 19, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/cgi-lex/ratifice.pl?Guyana>.

¹⁹⁵¹ *Ibid.*

¹⁹⁵² ILO, *Alphabetical list of ILO member countries*, [online] October 5, 2006 [cited October 19, 2006]; available from <http://www.ilo.org/public/english/standards/relm/country.htm>.

¹⁹⁵³ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

¹⁹⁵⁴ George K. Dannas, *Guyana The Situation of Children in the Worst Forms of Child Labor: A Rapid Assessment*, International Labour Office, Port of Spain, October 2002, 34.

¹⁹⁵⁵ *Ibid.*

¹⁹⁵⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Guyana (Tier 2 Watch List)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/65988.htm>. See also U.S. Department

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum age for employment at 15 years, with some exceptions.¹⁹⁵⁸ Children less than 15 years of age may be employed in technical schools provided such work is approved and supervised by the public authority.¹⁹⁵⁹ Children younger than 16 years are prohibited from night work and employment in industrial undertakings.¹⁹⁶⁰ There are penalties of fines for employers and parents who are guilty of direct involvement with child labor.¹⁹⁶¹

All forms of trafficking are prohibited by law, and penalties include life imprisonment, forfeiture of property, and payment of full restitution to the trafficked person.¹⁹⁶² Special provision is made for the evidence of victims who are children, defined as persons under 18 years.¹⁹⁶³ Although child pornography or prostitution is not specifically mentioned in Guyanese law, the laws prohibit the selling, publishing, or exhibiting of any obscene matter¹⁹⁶⁴ and the abduction of a girl under 18 years for "unlawful carnal knowledge."¹⁹⁶⁵ Also, the law sets the age of sexual consent at 16, thus prohibiting sex with children younger than 16, regardless of profession of consent.¹⁹⁶⁶ Forced labor, including by children, is prohibited by the constitution.¹⁹⁶⁷ The law sets the minimum age for voluntary enlistment in the armed forces at 18 years.¹⁹⁶⁸

The Ministry of Labor, Human Services and Social Security has principal responsibility for enforcing legislation relating to child labor.¹⁹⁶⁹ The Ministry of Labor has 20 labor officers who have authority to enter all workplaces to conduct inspections, including inspections concerning child labor.¹⁹⁷⁰ Within the Ministry, an anti-trafficking in persons unit has been

of State, "Guyana," in *Country Report on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78894.htm>.

¹⁹⁵⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Guyana," Section 5.

¹⁹⁵⁸ Clive Pegus, *A Review of Child Labour Laws of Guyana*, Section 4.2.1.

¹⁹⁵⁹ Government of Guyana, *Employment of Women, Young Persons and Children Act (Chapter 99:01) [consolidated up to 1973]*, No. 14 of 1933; available from <http://natlex.ilo.org>.

¹⁹⁶⁰ Clive Pegus, *A Review of Child Labour Laws of Guyana*, Section 4.2.1 and 4.2.4. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Guyana," Section 6d.

¹⁹⁶¹ Clive Pegus, *A Review of Child Labour Laws of Guyana*, Section 4.2.1.

¹⁹⁶² *Ibid.*, Section 4.3.2. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2005: Guyana," Section 5.

¹⁹⁶³ Clive Pegus, *A Review of Child Labour Laws of Guyana*, Section 4.3.2.

¹⁹⁶⁴ Interpol, *Legislation on Sexual Offences Against Children*, [database online] [cited October 21, 2006]; available from <http://www.interpol.int/public/Children/SexualAbuse/NationalLaws/csaGuyana.asp>.

¹⁹⁶⁵ Clive Pegus, *A Review of Child Labour Laws of Guyana*, Section 4.3.5. See also Interpol, *Legislation on Sexual Offences Against Children*.

¹⁹⁶⁶ Interpol, *Legislation on Sexual Offences Against Children*. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Guyana," Section 5.

¹⁹⁶⁷ *Constitution of the Co-operative Republic of Guyana*; available from

<http://www.georgetown.edu/pdba/Constitutions/Guyana/guyana96.html>. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Guyana," Section 6c.

¹⁹⁶⁸ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Guyana," in *Global Report 2004*; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=828.

¹⁹⁶⁹ Clive Pegus, *A Review of Child Labour Laws of Guyana*, 31. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Guyana," Section 5.

¹⁹⁷⁰ U.S. Embassy- Georgetown, *reporting*, December 20, 2006.

established to enforce anti-trafficking laws.¹⁹⁷¹ In the areas of worst forms of child labor, including trafficking, the Ministry's enforcement efforts are supported by the Guyanese police force.¹⁹⁷² In addition, the Ministry of Education has responsibility for enforcing provisions of the Education Act relating to the employment of children.¹⁹⁷³ As such, the Ministry of Education's attendance officers are authorized to enter any premise or place between 6 a.m. and 5 p.m. on any day except Sunday and enquire whether any child resides or is employed there.¹⁹⁷⁴ However, the Ministry was unable to provide information regarding the number of violations of child labor laws in 2006.¹⁹⁷⁵

Although there are laws that restrict child labor, according to the U.S. Department of State, the Ministry of Labor lacks sufficient inspectors to enforce child labor laws effectively, particularly in the country's interior.¹⁹⁷⁶

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Guyanese Government continues to participate in a USDOL-funded USD 2 million project implemented by an NGO (Partners of the Americas) to combat exploitive child labor through education, which aims to withdraw 1,267 and prevent 1,777 children from exploitive labor.¹⁹⁷⁷ The project aims to build the capacity of the Guyanese Government to combat child labor by advocating for the establishment of a permanent coordinating institution within the government to lead efforts to combat child labor, and the development of a National Strategy on Child Labor.¹⁹⁷⁸

¹⁹⁷¹ Guyana Government Information Agency, *TIP seminar opens at GWLL*, [online] April 20, 2005 2005 [cited October 21, 2006]; available from <http://www.gina.gov/gy/archive/daily/b050420.html>.

¹⁹⁷² Clive Pegus, *A Review of Child Labour Laws of Guyana*, 31. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports-2006: Guyana," Section 5.

¹⁹⁷³ Clive Pegus, *A Review of Child Labour Laws of Guyana*, 31.

¹⁹⁷⁴ *Ibid.*, 32.

¹⁹⁷⁵ U.S. Embassy- Georgetown, *reporting, December 20, 2006*.

¹⁹⁷⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Guyana," Section 6d.

¹⁹⁷⁷ Partners of the Americas, *Educare-Guyana: Combating Child Labor through Education in Guyana*, technical progress report, September 30, 2006, 9, 38.

¹⁹⁷⁸ *Ibid.*, Annex F: Performance Monitoring Plan, Indicators 2.1 and 2.2.

Haiti

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Children in Haiti work on family farms and in the informal sector. Children also engage in street vending. In general, because of high unemployment and job competition, there is very little child labor in the industrial sector and on commercial farms.¹⁹⁸⁵ Past reports indicate that Haitian children have worked on sugar plantations in the Dominican Republic. Some recent reports indicate that the practice of transporting Haitians to harvest sugarcane in the Dominican Republic has been largely curtailed.¹⁹⁸⁶

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children ages 5-14 estimated as working:	Unavailable
Minimum age of work:	15 ¹⁹⁷⁹
Age to which education is compulsory:	11 ¹⁹⁸⁰
Free public education:	Yes ^{1981*}
Gross primary enrollment rate:	Unavailable
Net primary enrollment rate:	Unavailable
Percent of children 5-14 attending school:	Unavailable
Percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	Unavailable
Ratified Convention 138:	No ¹⁹⁸²
Ratified Convention 182:	No ¹⁹⁸³
ILO-IPEC Participating Country:	Yes ¹⁹⁸⁴
*Must pay for school supplies and related items.	

¹⁹⁷⁹ Government of Haiti, *Code du travail*, (1984), Article 335; available from <http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/docs/WEBTEXT/135/64790/F61HTI01.htm>.

¹⁹⁸⁰ UNESCO, *Education for All Global Monitoring Report 2006: Literacy for Life*, Paris, 2005, 306; available from http://portal.unesco.org/education/en/ev.php-URL_ID=43283&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html.

¹⁹⁸¹ Government of Haiti, *Constitution de la République d'Haiti*, (1987), article 32; available from <http://pdba.georgetown.edu/Constitutions/Haiti/haiti1987fr.html>. See also UNESCO, *Education for All Global Monitoring Report 2006: Literacy for Life*, 84. See also U.S. Department of State, *Background Note: Haiti*, [online] June 2006 [cited October 18, 2006]; available from <http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/bgn/1982.htm>.

¹⁹⁸² ILO, *Ratifications by Country*; accessed October 18, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/newratframeE.htm>.

¹⁹⁸³ Ibid.

¹⁹⁸⁴ ILO, *IPEC Action Against Child Labour: Highlights 2006*, Geneva, October 2006; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ippec/prod/eng/20070228_Implementationreport_en_Web.pdf.

¹⁹⁸⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Haiti," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 6d; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78895.htm>.

¹⁹⁸⁶ International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, *Internationally-Recognised Core Labour Standards in the Dominican Republic: Report for the WTO General Council Review of Trade Policies of the Dominican Republic*, 2002, 7; available from <http://www.icftu.org/www/pdf/englishclsdominicanrepublic.pdf>. See also International Organization for Migration, *Americas: Assistance for Children Victims of Human Trafficking in Haiti*, [online] December 4, 2006 [cited January 29, 2007]; available from <http://www.iom.int/jahia/Jahia/featureArticleAM/cache/offonce?entryId=12185>. See also U.S. Department of State, "Dominican Republic," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78889.htm>.

The most common form of work for children in Haiti is domestic service.¹⁹⁸⁷ The practice of sending children, particularly girls, from poor rural areas to work as domestic servants for relatively richer families is a common traditional custom. While some of these children, referred to as “restaveks,” are cared for and receive an education, many are victims of trafficking. Such children receive no schooling; are sexually exploited and physically abused; and work under conditions of forced labor.¹⁹⁸⁸ Many children who live on the streets in Haiti are former domestic servants.¹⁹⁸⁹ Boys are also victims of trafficking under the restavek practice, in which they are sent to stay with better-off families and find themselves forced to work in agriculture.¹⁹⁹⁰ Save the Children and UNICEF estimated in 2002 that the number of victims of internal trafficking in Haiti was between 176,000 and 300,000.¹⁹⁹¹

In addition to internal trafficking, children are trafficked from Haiti to the Dominican Republic. An IOM/UNICEF study in 2002 found that more than 2,000 Haitian children are victims of such trafficking each year.¹⁹⁹² Inconclusive evidence suggests that some Haitian children are sent to live with families in the Dominican Republic, where some of them are required to work rather than attend school, raising the possibility that such children are victims of trafficking.¹⁹⁹³ Girls are also trafficked from the Dominican Republic to Haiti for commercial sexual exploitation.¹⁹⁹⁴ In 2003, ILO-IPEC published a rapid assessment on the commercial sexual exploitation of children in Haiti, which found that the majority of the child commercial sex workers surveyed were street children in the 13 to 17 age range, with some as young as 9 or 10 years old.¹⁹⁹⁵ Haitians are trafficked to the United States, Europe, and Canada, but it is unclear if children are among those trafficked.¹⁹⁹⁶

Despite the generally peaceful 2006 elections, Haiti has continued to experience insecurity.¹⁹⁹⁷ Children are involved with armed groups in the country; they work as porters, spies, messengers, and combatants.¹⁹⁹⁸

¹⁹⁸⁷ ILO-IPEC, “Haiti escenario de moderna esclavitud,” *Boletín Encuentros* (August 2005); available from <http://www.oit.or.cr/ippec/encuentros/noticia.php?notCodigo=469>. See also U.S. Department of State, “Country Reports- 2006: Haiti,” Section 6d.

¹⁹⁸⁸ U.S. Department of State, “Country Reports- 2006: Haiti,” section 5. See also U.S. Department of State, “Haiti,” in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/65991.htm>. See also ILO, *Report of the Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations (articles 19, 22 and 35 of the Constitution), Third Item on the Agenda: Information and Reports on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations*, ILO Conference, 92nd session, Geneva, 2005; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/cgi-lex/pdconv.pl?host=status01&textbase=iloeng&document=7698&chapter=6&query=%28C029%29+%40ref+%2B+%28Haiti%29+%40ref&highlight=&querytype=bool&context=0>.

¹⁹⁸⁹ U.S. Department of State, “Country Reports- 2006: Haiti,” Section 5.

¹⁹⁹⁰ U.S. Embassy - Port-au-Prince, *reporting*, March 6, 2007.

¹⁹⁹¹ International Organization for Migration, *Americas: Assistance for Children Victims*.

¹⁹⁹² U.S. Department of State, “Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Haiti.” See also International Organization for Migration, *Americas: Assistance for Children Victims*.

¹⁹⁹³ U.S. Department of State, “Country Reports- 2006: Dominican Republic,” Section 6d.

¹⁹⁹⁴ U.S. Department of State, “Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Haiti.”

¹⁹⁹⁵ ILO-IPEC, *Etude exploratoire sur l’exploitation sexuelle des mineurs à des fins commerciales*, Port-au-Prince, 2003, 50, 52. See also Chief of the Cabinet of the Minister of the Feminine Condition and Rights of Women, Interview with USDOL consultant, July 14, 2006.

¹⁹⁹⁶ U.S. Department of State, “Country Reports- 2006: Haiti,” Section 5.

¹⁹⁹⁷ Ibid. See also UNICEF, *At a Glance: Haiti: Background*, [online] [cited October 18, 2006]; available from <http://www.unicef.org/infobycountry/haiti.html>. See also Louis Joinet, *Situation of Human Rights in Haiti*, UN

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The minimum age for work in industrial, agricultural, or commercial enterprises in Haiti is 15 years.¹⁹⁹⁹ The minimum age for employment as a domestic servant is also 15 years.²⁰⁰⁰ The minimum age for work as an apprentice is 14.²⁰⁰¹ Children ages 15 to 18 must obtain a work authorization from the Ministry of Labor. Employing a child without a work authorization is punishable by fines.²⁰⁰² Children less than 18 years of age are prohibited from night work in industrial jobs, and minors (of undefined age) are prohibited from hazardous work.²⁰⁰³

The law prohibits forced labor, including by children.²⁰⁰⁴ The law also prohibits the corruption of youth below the age of 21, including by prostitution, with penalties ranging from 6 months to 3 years imprisonment.²⁰⁰⁵ Child trafficking is illegal.²⁰⁰⁶ The law obligates Haitians over age 18 to perform military service, but the military forces have been disbanded by presidential order.²⁰⁰⁷

The Ministry of Social Affairs and Labor (MAST), through the Institute of Social Welfare and Research (IBESR), is responsible for enforcing child labor laws.²⁰⁰⁸ According to the U.S. Department of State, the agency has insufficient resources to investigate child labor violations.²⁰⁰⁹ IBESR also often takes the lead on anti-child trafficking efforts.²⁰¹⁰ The Haitian National Police's Brigade for the Protection of Minors is responsible for investigating crimes against children, which also include trafficking. The Brigade, which has 18 full-time officers, monitors the movement of children across the border with the Dominican Republic.²⁰¹¹ In

Economic and Social Council, January 24, 2006, 2; available from <http://daccessdds.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/G06/104/54/PDF/G0610454.pdf?OpenElement>.

¹⁹⁹⁸ UNICEF, *At a Glance: Haiti: Background*, [online] n.d. [cited October 18, 2006]; available from <http://www.unicef.org/infobycountry/haiti.html>. See also Representative of the Child Protection Unit, UN Mission for the Stabilization of Haiti, interview with USDOL consultant, July 25, 2006.

¹⁹⁹⁹ Government of Haiti, *Code du travail*, Article 335.

²⁰⁰⁰ Government of Haiti, *Loi relative à l'interdiction et à l'élimination de toutes formes d'abus, de violences, de mauvais traitements ou traitements inhumains contre les enfants*, (June 5, 2003), article 1. See also Ministry of Social Affairs and Labor official, Interview with USDOL consultant, July 17, 2006. See also U.S. Embassy - Port-au-Prince official, Interview with USDOL official, March 21, 2007.

²⁰⁰¹ Government of Haiti, *Code du travail*, Article 73.

²⁰⁰² *Ibid.*, Articles 337 and 340.

²⁰⁰³ *Ibid.*, Articles 333 and 334.

²⁰⁰⁴ *Ibid.*, Article 4. See also Government of Haiti, *Loi relative a l'interdiction et a l'elimination de toutes forms d'abus*, article 2.

²⁰⁰⁵ Government of Haiti, *Código penal*, Article 282; available from <http://www.unifr.ch/derechopenal/introanu.htm>.

²⁰⁰⁶ U.S. Embassy - Port au Prince, *reporting*, March 2, 2005. See also Government of Haiti, *Loi relative a l'interdiction et a l'elimination de toutes forms d'abus*, Article 2.

²⁰⁰⁷ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Haiti," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, London, 2004; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=829.

²⁰⁰⁸ Ministry of Social Affairs and Labor official, Interview, July 17, 2006.

²⁰⁰⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Haiti," Section 6d.

²⁰¹⁰ U.S. Embassy - Port-au-Prince, *reporting*, March 6, 2007.

²⁰¹¹ Minister of Justice and Public Security, *Directive Generale portant création, organisation, mission et fonctionnement de la Brigade de Protection des Mineurs de la Direction Centrale de la Police Judiciaire*, Port-au-Prince, 2003, 4. See also U.S. Embassy - Port-au-Prince, *reporting*, March 6, 2007. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Haiti," Section 5.

February 2007, the Brigade arrested the owner of an orphanage involved in trafficking 32 children through fraudulent adoptions.²⁰¹² The U.S. Department of State reports, however, that a lack of resources, training, and established procedures hamper the work of the Brigade.²⁰¹³ The police and Ministry of Interior have posted border agents at the country's international airport to watch for children who might be victims of trafficking.²⁰¹⁴ According to the U.S. Department of State, however, a dysfunctional judicial system and corruption, as well as attention to other issues such as the elections and controlling the country's violence, prevent the government from effectively addressing child trafficking.²⁰¹⁵

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The government has established a 5-year National Protection Plan for Children in Difficult Situations and Vulnerable Children that includes strategies to reduce child domestic work, combat child trafficking, and rehabilitate children involved in armed groups.²⁰¹⁶ As part of the 2004-2006 Interim Cooperation Framework, an assistance program supported by various bilateral, multilateral, and UN agencies, MAST developed a 2-year plan to open shelters and protect children, including victims of trafficking. Two shelters have been opened, but they were not functioning during the reporting period.²⁰¹⁷ Government officials from several ministries received training on trafficking issues during 2006.²⁰¹⁸ The government refers victims of trafficking to NGOs that provide return and reintegration services. It also provides a small sum to repatriated persons, who may be victims of trafficking, to aid in their return to their origin communities.²⁰¹⁹

The government also participated in a USD 430,000 Canadian-funded project implemented by ILO-IPEC to eradicate and prevent the worst forms of child labor, which ended in September 2006.²⁰²⁰

²⁰¹² U.S. Embassy - Port-au-Prince, *reporting, March 6, 2007.*

²⁰¹³ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Haiti," Section 5.

²⁰¹⁴ U.S. Embassy - Port-au-Prince, *reporting, March 6, 2007.*

²⁰¹⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Haiti." See also U.S. Embassy - Port-au-Prince, *reporting, March 6, 2007.*

²⁰¹⁶ Ministry of Social Affairs and Labor, *Plan National de Protection: Enfance en situation difficile ou de vulnérabilité*, December 2005, 1.

²⁰¹⁷ UN, World Bank, European Commission, and Inter-American Development Bank, *Republic of Haiti: Interim Cooperation Framework 2004-2006, Summary Report*, July 2006, xi; available from <http://haiticci.undg.org/uploads/ReportVersion8%20Eng%20FINAL%20Low%20Res.pdf>. See also U.S. Embassy - Port au Prince, *reporting, March 2, 2005.* See also U.S. Embassy - Port-au-Prince official, Interview, March 21, 2007.

²⁰¹⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Haiti," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2005*, Washington, DC, March 8, 2006, Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2005/61731.htm>.

²⁰¹⁹ U.S. Embassy - Port-au-Prince, *reporting, March 6, 2007.*

²⁰²⁰ ILO-IPEC official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, November 16, 2006.

Honduras

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2002, approximately 13.3 percent of boys and 5.0 percent of girls ages 5 to 14 years were working in Honduras.²⁰³¹ The majority of working children were found in the agricultural sector (59.1 percent), followed by services (28.5 percent), manufacturing (10.9 percent), and other sectors (1.4 percent).²⁰³² Children work on melon and sugarcane farms, as lobster divers, in garbage disposal sites, the *maquila* sector, and as domestic servants.²⁰³³ Children have been involved in the sale of drugs in Olancho and Comayagua.²⁰³⁴

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 2002:	9.2% ²⁰²¹
Minimum age for admission to work:	16 ²⁰²²
Age to which education is compulsory:	13 ²⁰²³
Free public education:	Yes ²⁰²⁴
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:	113% ²⁰²⁵
Net primary enrollment rate in 2004:	91% ²⁰²⁶
Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 2002:	80.1% ²⁰²⁷
Percentage of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	Unavailable
Ratified Convention 138:	6/9/1980 ²⁰²⁸
Ratified Convention 182:	10/25/2001 ²⁰²⁹
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Yes ²⁰³⁰

²⁰²¹ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, October 7, 2005.

²⁰²² Government of Honduras, *Código de Trabajo de la República de Honduras y sus reformas, 1959*, Decreto No. 189; available from <http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/docs/WEBTEXT/29076/64849/S59HND01.htm>.

²⁰²³ U.S. Department of State, "Honduras," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78896.htm>.

²⁰²⁴ *Constitución de la República de Honduras, 1982*, Article 171; available from <http://www.georgetown.edu/pdba/Constitutions/Honduras/hond82.html>.

²⁰²⁵ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

²⁰²⁶ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Rate. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

²⁰²⁷ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

²⁰²⁸ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, accessed December 28, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/docs/declworld.htm>. See also ILO-IPEC, *Combating Child Labor in the Commercial Agriculture Sector in Central America and the Dominican Republic*, technical progress report, RLA/00/P54/USA, ILO-IPEC, Geneva, March 2004.

²⁰²⁹ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*. See also USAID Development Indicators Service, *Global Education Database*, [online] 2004 [cited October 10, 2004]; available from <http://quesdb.cdie.org/ged/index.html>.

²⁰³⁰ ILO-IPEC, *Ficha País: Honduras*, 2006; available from http://www.oit.org.pe/ippec/documentos/ficha_pais_hon.pdf.

²⁰³¹ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

²⁰³² Ibid.

²⁰³³ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Honduras," Section 6d.

²⁰³⁴ National Commission for the Eradication of Child Labor, *Plan de Acción Nacional Para la Erradicación Gradual y Progresiva del Trabajo Infantil en Honduras*, Tegucigalpa, December 2001, 97.

Honduran children are trafficked internally for commercial sexual exploitation.²⁰³⁵ Children from rural areas are trafficked to urban and tourist centers such as San Pedro Sula, the North Caribbean Coast, and the Bay Islands.²⁰³⁶ Between 20 and 30 children, mostly girls, are trafficked daily across the border with Guatemala for sexual exploitation. A national NGO reported that there were 10,000 child trafficking victims during 2006.²⁰³⁷

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum age for employment at 16 years.²⁰³⁸ Children 14 to 15 years are permitted to work with parental consent and the Ministry of Labor's permission.²⁰³⁹ The law prohibits a child younger than 14 years from working, even with parental permission.²⁰⁴⁰ If children 14 or 15 years are hired, an employer must certify that they have finished or are finishing compulsory schooling.²⁰⁴¹ Individuals who allow or oblige children to work illegally face fines as well as prison sentences of 3 to 5 years.²⁰⁴² Children under 16 are prohibited from working at night and in clubs, theaters, circuses, cafes, bars, in establishments that serve alcoholic beverages, or in jobs that have been determined to be unhealthy or dangerous.²⁰⁴³ No child under age 16 is allowed to work in hazardous conditions, which are defined by Honduran law to include standing on high scaffolding; exposure to toxic substances; diving underwater; working in tunnels or underground; working with wood-cutting machines, ovens, smelters, or heavy presses; and exposure to vehicular traffic, high-voltage electrical currents, and garbage.²⁰⁴⁴ Children under 17 years may only work 6 hours per day and for no more than 30 hours per week.²⁰⁴⁵

According to the U.S. Department of State, enforcement of child labor laws by the Ministry of Labor is not effective outside the *maquila* sector. Violations occur mostly in the agricultural export sector, family farming, small-scale services, and commerce.²⁰⁴⁶

Honduran law requires recruits to be 18 in order to enlist voluntarily in the armed forces. There is no compulsory conscription.²⁰⁴⁷

²⁰³⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Honduras," Section 5.

²⁰³⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Honduras (Tier 2 Watch List)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/65989.htm>.

²⁰³⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Honduras," Section 5.

²⁰³⁸ *Código de Trabajo de la República de Honduras y sus Reformas, 1959*, Decreto No. 189, Artículos 128-129; available from <http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/docs/WEBTEXT/29076/64849/S59HND01.htm>. See also *Constitución de la República de Honduras, 1982*, Capítulo 5, Artículo 128, Número 7.

²⁰³⁹ *Código de Trabajo*, Artículos 133 and 128. See also *Código de la Niñez y de la Adolescencia, 1996*, Artículo 119; available from http://www.bvs.hn/bva/fulltext/Leyes_honduras.PDF. See also *Constitución de la República de Honduras, 1982*, Capítulo 5, Artículo 128, Número 7.

²⁰⁴⁰ *Código de la Niñez y de la Adolescencia, 1996*, Artículos 119 and 120.

²⁰⁴¹ *Código de Trabajo*, Artículo 133.

²⁰⁴² *Código de la Niñez y de la Adolescencia, 1996.*, Artículo 134.

²⁰⁴³ *Código de Trabajo*, Artículos 128 and 129.

²⁰⁴⁴ U.S. Embassy- Tegucigalpa, *reporting*, August 25, 2004.

²⁰⁴⁵ *Constitución de la República de Honduras, 1982*, Capítulo 5, Artículo 128, Número 7.

²⁰⁴⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Honduras." Section 6d.

In Honduras, the child and adolescent code states that children are protected against sexual exploitation, child prostitution, and child pornography; violators face 3 to 5 years of imprisonment.²⁰⁴⁸ The penal code indicates that those who promote or facilitate child prostitution are punished with 7.5 to 12 years of imprisonment and fines.²⁰⁴⁹ A new anti-trafficking law increased penalties and defined new offenses in relation to trafficking in persons. The law establishes fines and prison terms of 4 to 20 years for prostitution, incest, lechery, knowingly infecting someone with HIV/AIDS, abuse, and pornography related to trafficking.²⁰⁵⁰ A criminal code reform that includes the classification of the conducts related to the commercial sexual exploitation of children was approved in 2006.²⁰⁵¹ The U.S. Department of State reports that enforcement of the new law has been limited.²⁰⁵² However, the Office of the Special Prosecutor for Children has cooperated with the Governments of Mexico, Guatemala, Belize, and Nicaragua to locate and repatriate children who were trafficking victims. As a result of this international cooperation, 53 trafficked children have been returned to Honduras.²⁰⁵³

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

Honduras is implementing a National Plan of Action to Eradicate Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children.²⁰⁵⁴ The Government of Honduras is educating government officials and the tourism industry about anti-trafficking law reforms.²⁰⁵⁵

The Government of Honduras is currently participating in a number of ILO-IPEC implemented projects including a USD 8.7 million 2002-2009 USDOL-funded regional project that works to combat the commercial sexual exploitation of children. The project targets 713 children for withdrawal and 657 children for prevention from trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation in the region.²⁰⁵⁶ As part of an effort to build capacity to improve labor law compliance among the CAFTA-DR partners, USDOL is providing USD 2.85 million for a project to strengthen outreach efforts in the agriculture sector in the region, where child labor is a serious problem.²⁰⁵⁷ Another ILO-IPEC implemented USD 500,000 project, funded by the Netherlands, works to combat child domestic work through education and training. A USD

²⁰⁴⁷ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Honduras," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, London, 2004; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=830.

²⁰⁴⁸ *Código de la Niñez y de la Adolescencia*, 1996, Artículos 134 and 141.

²⁰⁴⁹ Government of Honduras, *Legislation of Interpol member states on sexual offences against children: Honduras*, [database online] 2004 [cited June 22, 2005], Article 148; available from <http://www.interpol.int/Public/Children/SexualAbuse/NationalLaws/csaHonduras.asp>.

²⁰⁵⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Honduras," Section 6d.

²⁰⁵¹ ILO-IPEC, *Stop the Exploitation: Contribution to the Prevention and Elimination of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children in Central America, Panama and the Dominican Republic*, technical progress report, March 15, 2006.

²⁰⁵² U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Honduras," Section 5.

²⁰⁵³ *Ibid.*, Section 5.

²⁰⁵⁴ ILO-IPEC, *Ficha País: Honduras*.

²⁰⁵⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Honduras."

²⁰⁵⁶ ILO-IPEC, *Stop the Exploitation: Contribution to the Prevention and Elimination of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children in Central America, Panama and the Dominican Republic*, 2002.

²⁰⁵⁷ Social Accountability International, *Project CULTIVAR: Advancing Labor Rights in Agriculture in Central America*, project document, New York, August 8, 2007.

2.7 million ILO-IPEC project funded by Italy combats child labor in garbage dumps. The Government of Honduras participates in a USD 500,000 ILO-IPEC project funded by Canada that focuses on combating child labor through strengthening labor ministries and workers. Honduras also participates in a USD 14 million ILO-IPEC regional project funded by Spain.²⁰⁵⁸

In addition, the Government of Honduras is participating in a 2004-2008 USD 5.7 million USDOL-funded regional project implemented by CARE to combat child labor through education. The project targets 470 children for withdrawal and 1,410 children for prevention from exploitive child labor.²⁰⁵⁹

²⁰⁵⁸ ILO-IPEC, *IPEC Projects from All Donors Except USDOL*, November 3, 2006.

²⁰⁵⁹ U.S. Department of Labor, *Project Primero Aprendo*, project summary. , 2004.

India

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2000, approximately 4.1 percent of boys and 4.0 percent of girls ages 5 to 14 were working in India. The majority of working children were found in the agricultural sector (73.3 percent), followed by manufacturing (12.4 percent), services (11.5 percent) and other sectors (2.8 percent).²⁰⁷¹

According to the Government of India, the largest number of working children can be found in the State of Uttar Pradesh, followed by Andhra Pradesh,

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 2000:	4.1% ²⁰⁶⁰
Minimum age for admission to work:	14 in specified hazardous occupations and processes ²⁰⁶¹
Age to which education is compulsory:	14 ²⁰⁶²
Free public education:	Yes ²⁰⁶³
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:	116% ²⁰⁶⁴
Net primary enrollment rate in 2004:	90% ²⁰⁶⁵
Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 2000:	71.5% ²⁰⁶⁶
As of 2003, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	79% ²⁰⁶⁷
Ratified Convention 138:	No ²⁰⁶⁸
Ratified Convention 182:	No ²⁰⁶⁹
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Yes ²⁰⁷⁰
*Implementing legislation has not been passed.	

²⁰⁶⁰ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, October 7, 2005.

²⁰⁶¹ Government of India, *Child Labor- Prohibition and Regulation Act (as amended)*, (1986 and July 10, 2006), Articles 2, 3, Schedule; available from <http://labour.nic.in/cwl/ChildLabour.htm>. See also Government of India, *The Factories Act*, No. 63 of 1948, as amended by No. 20 of 1987, (1948), Article 67; available from <http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/docs/WEBTEXT/32063/64873/E87IND01.htm>. See also Ministry of Labour and Employment, *Annual Report of the Ministry of Labour 2005-2006*, New Delhi, September 21, 2006, 80; available from <http://www.labour.nic.in/annrep/annrep2005.htm>.

²⁰⁶² U.S. Department of State, "India," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78871.htm>.

²⁰⁶³ Ibid.

²⁰⁶⁴ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

²⁰⁶⁵ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Rate. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

²⁰⁶⁶ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

²⁰⁶⁷ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Survival Rate to Grade 5. Total*, accessed December 18, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

²⁰⁶⁸ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, accessed October 17, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/newratframeE.htm>.

²⁰⁶⁹ Ibid.

²⁰⁷⁰ ILO-IPEC, *IPEC Action Against Child Labour: Highlights 2006*, Geneva, October 2006; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ipcc/prod/eng/20061013_implementationreport_eng.pdf.

²⁰⁷¹ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

Rajasthan, and Bihar. The government also found that most working children are in rural areas working in agriculture and related activities such as livestock tending, forestry, and fishing.²⁰⁷² Children work in hazardous conditions in numerous industries, including quarrying, gemstone polishing; *zari* (embroidery or sewing of beads and colored threads to fabric); hybrid seed production; and the manufacture of matches, bricks, carpets, locks, glassware, fireworks, leather goods, brassware and other metal goods, *bidis* (cigarettes), and sporting goods.²⁰⁷³ In addition, they are found in service industries such as hotels, restaurants, and tourism. Within all economic sectors, the highest number of child laborers can be found in the informal economy.²⁰⁷⁴ Activities in which children are working in the informal economy include vending food and other goods; repairing vehicles; construction; food preparation; scavenging; shoe-shining; car washing and repair; begging; and domestic service in private homes. The majority of child domestic workers are girls 12 to 17, but some are reportedly as young as 5 or 6 years, and many work very long hours and suffer abusive treatment.²⁰⁷⁵

Some reports indicate that large numbers of children work under forced or bonded labor conditions in India. Past reports have identified forced or indentured child labor in floriculture; quarrying including the production of quarried stones; and the production of brass goods, footwear, locks, and silk thread and cloth.²⁰⁷⁶ More recent reports point to the existence of forced or indentured child labor in cottonseed production; other agricultural activities; circuses; rice mills; fishing; shops; domestic work; carpet weaving; salt making; and the manufacture of gemstones, fireworks, glassware, silver goods, matches, *bidis*, leather goods, and bricks.²⁰⁷⁷ The vast majority of bonded laborers are from former scheduled castes and tribal groups.²⁰⁷⁸

The commercial sexual exploitation of children is a problem in India. Many are sold into commercial sexual exploitation by their impoverished families.²⁰⁷⁹ Child sex tourism has been reported in the State of Goa and other popular tourist destinations.²⁰⁸⁰ There is increasing

²⁰⁷² Ministry of Labour and Employment, *Annual Report of the Ministry of Labour*, 80.

²⁰⁷³ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: India," Section 6c. See also Government of India, *Child Labor- Prohibition and Regulation Act (as amended)*, Schedule.

²⁰⁷⁴ ILO- Subregional Office for South Asia, *A Decade of ILO-India Partnerships*, New Delhi, 2004, 70-71; available from http://www.ilo.org/public/english/region/asro/newdelhi/download/misa_cl.pdf.

²⁰⁷⁵ Ibid. See also International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, "India: Economic Boom Masks Widespread Child Labour," *Trade Union World* no. 6 (October 2004), 2.

²⁰⁷⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: India," Section 6c. See also Ravi Srivastava, *Bonded Labour in India: Its Incidence and Pattern*, ILO - Special Action Programme to Combat Forced Labour, Geneva, April 2005, 27; available from

http://www.ilo.org/dyn/declaris/DECLARATIONWEB.DOWNLOAD_BLOB?Var_DocumentID=5071.

²⁰⁷⁷ Srivastava, *Bonded Labour in India*, 5-9, 16, 24, 27-29, 31. See also National Commission for Women, *Public Hearing on the Condition of Bonded Labourers in Rice Mills of Red Hills, Thruvallur*, New Delhi, October 4, 2004, 1-3. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: India," Section 6c.

²⁰⁷⁸ Srivastava, *Bonded Labour in India*, 9. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: India," Section 6c.

²⁰⁷⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: India," Section 5.

²⁰⁸⁰ ECPAT International and Aparna Bhat, *Report on Laws and Legal Procedures Concerning the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children in India*, Bangkok, November 2004, 9; available from http://www.ecpat.net/eng/Ecpat_inter/projects/promoting_law/india_report/Laws_Legal_Procedures_India_Nov2004.pdf. See also Equations, *A Situational Analysis of Child Sex Tourism in India (Kerala and Goa)*, Bangkok,

awareness of boys being exploited in prostitution and sex tourism.²⁰⁸¹ The traditional practice of child marriage, although illegal, is sometimes used to coerce children into commercial sexual exploitation.²⁰⁸² There are also reports of children forced to work as soldiers by armed opposition groups.²⁰⁸³

India is a source, transit, and destination country for minors trafficked for commercial sexual exploitation, domestic servitude, industrial and agricultural labor, and begging.²⁰⁸⁴ Bangladeshi, Nepali, and Indian girls from rural areas are trafficked for commercial sexual exploitation in major urban centers such as Mumbai (Bombay), Kolkata (Calcutta), and New Delhi. Indian girls are also trafficked to the Persian Gulf to work as domestics or for commercial sexual exploitation, and Bangladeshi girls are trafficked through India into prostitution in Pakistan.²⁰⁸⁵ Boys as young as 4 from India, Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Bangladesh are trafficked through India to the Middle East and Gulf countries to work as camel jockeys, although the practice has greatly decreased.²⁰⁸⁶ The majority of children trafficked are Indians trafficked within the country and even within the same state. Children living in conflict areas, such as the northeastern states, are especially vulnerable to trafficking.²⁰⁸⁷

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

Indian law prohibits the employment of children under 14 years in any factory or in specified hazardous occupations and processes, such as work in slaughterhouses, carpet weaving, and trash picking.²⁰⁸⁸ In October 2006, the government added domestic service as well as work in roadside eateries (*dhabas*), restaurants, hotels, motels, tea shops, and other recreational establishments to its official list of hazardous work outlawed for children; bringing the totals

December 2003, 5; available from http://www.ecpat.net/eng/Ecpat_inter/projects/sex_tourism/India-Equations.Web.pdf.

²⁰⁸¹ Sree Lakshmi Akula and Anil Raghuvanshi, *Situational Analysis Report on Prostitution of Boys in India (Hyderabad)*, Bangkok, June, 2006, 7; available from http://www.ecpat.net/eng/publications/Boy_Prostitution/PDF/India_Hyderabad.pdf. See also Equations, *Situational Analysis of Child Sex Tourism*.

²⁰⁸² ECPAT International and Aparna Bhat, *Report on Laws and Legal Procedures*, 8. See also U.S. Embassy- New Delhi, *reporting*, March 21, 2005.

²⁰⁸³ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, *Child Soldiers: Frequently Asked Questions*, [online] [cited January 31, 2007]; available from <http://www.child-soldiers.org/childsoldiers/questions-and-answers>. See also Human Rights Watch, "India," in *World Report 2006*, New York, January 18, 2006; available from <http://hrw.org/english/docs/2006/01/18/india12272.htm>.

²⁰⁸⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: India," Section 5. See also Sankar Sen and P. M. Nair, *A Report on Trafficking in Women and Children in India 2002-2003*, National Human Rights Commission of India, Institute of Social Sciences, and UNIFEM, New Delhi, July 2004, 159.

²⁰⁸⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: India," Section 5.

²⁰⁸⁶ U.S. Department of State, "India (Tier 2 Watch List)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/65989.htm>. See also US Embassy- New Delhi official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, August 5, 2007.

²⁰⁸⁷ Sankar Sen and P.M. Nair, *A Report on Trafficking in Women and Children in India 2002-2003*, National Human Rights Commission of India, Institute of Social Sciences, and UNIFEM, New Delhi, July, 2004, 353. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: India," Section 5.

²⁰⁸⁸ Government of India, *Child Labor- Prohibition and Regulation Act (as amended)*, Articles 2 and 3, Schedule. See also Government of India, *The Factories Act*, Article 67.

to 15 occupations and 57 processes.²⁰⁸⁹ Children and adolescents 14 to 18 may work limited hours in factories during the daytime, if they have been granted a certificate of fitness.²⁰⁹⁰ Children of any age may be employed in all other activities, if employers adhere to restrictions including a maximum 6-hour workday with a 1-hour rest period, at least 1 day off per week, and no night work or overtime work. Penalties include fines or imprisonment of 3 months to 1 year, or up to 2 years for repeat offenses.²⁰⁹¹

Bonded child labor is illegal in India. The law provides for district-level vigilance committees to investigate allegations of bonded labor; persons found using bonded labor may be fined and imprisoned for up to 3 years.²⁰⁹² The state of Tamil Nadu charged district-level officials with the responsibility of investigating cases of bonded labor and releasing anyone found in bondage. The state reports that 13,051 of the 35,884 identified have been released from bondage and rehabilitated at the cost of USD 4 million. As of 2006, 803 of the 884 employers against whom cases were filed had been convicted.²⁰⁹³ The commercial sexual exploitation and trafficking of boys and girls are prohibited by law. Penalties include imprisonment of 7 to 14 years for procuring, inducing, or taking a minor 16 to 18 from one place to another for prostitution; the penalty can increase to a life sentence if the victim is under 16.²⁰⁹⁴ It is illegal to cause any person to produce or deal in narcotic or psychotropic substances; punishment consists of fines and imprisonment of up to 20 years.²⁰⁹⁵ There is no compulsory conscription into the Indian military.²⁰⁹⁶

The enforcement of child labor and bonded labor laws is primarily the responsibility of state and local governments, with the Ministry of Labor and Employment (MOLE) providing oversight and coordination.²⁰⁹⁷ As of December 2006, state governments had identified 1,672 violations of the ban prohibiting children from engaging in hazardous work, based on the 23,166 inspections they had conducted.²⁰⁹⁸ In late 2006, Delhi police and NGOs raided several factories where children had been working under exploitive conditions and rescued more than 100 children.²⁰⁹⁹ Police forces in other states, including Assam and West Bengal, also conducted raids in 2006 to free children in trafficking situations. Raids were often carried out

²⁰⁸⁹ U.S. Embassy- New Delhi, *reporting*, October 17, 2006. See also Government of India, *Child Labor- Prohibition and Regulation Act (as amended)*, Schedule.

²⁰⁹⁰ Government of India, *The Factories Act*, Articles 2, 67, 68, 70, 71.

²⁰⁹¹ Government of India, *Child Labor- Prohibition and Regulation Act (as amended)*, Articles 7, 8, 14.

²⁰⁹² *Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act*, Act No. 19 of 1976, (February 9, 1976), Articles 4, 13, 14, 18; available from <http://indiacode.nic.in/fullact1.asp?tfnm=197619>. See also Government of India, *Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act*, No. 56, (December 30, 2000), Article 26; available from <http://socialwelfare.delhigovt.nic.in/juvenilejustice1.htm>.

²⁰⁹³ US Embassy- New Delhi official, E-mail communication, August 5, 2007.

²⁰⁹⁴ Government of India, *Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act*, (1956), Articles 2 and 5; available from <http://www.helpline.law.com/bareact/index.php?dsp=immoral-traffic>.

²⁰⁹⁵ Government of India, *The Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act*, No. 61, (1985), Articles 8, 15-32; available from http://www.unodc.org/unodc/legal_library/in/legal_library_1987-06-05_1985-33.html.

²⁰⁹⁶ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "India," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, London, 2004; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=851.

²⁰⁹⁷ Ministry of Labour and Employment, *Annual Report of the Ministry of Labour*, 67, 80. See also Human Rights Watch, *Small Change: Bonded Child Labor in India's Silk Industry*, January, 2003, 54; available from <http://www.hrw.org/reports/2003/india/>.

²⁰⁹⁸ US Embassy- New Delhi official, E-mail communication, August 5, 2007.

²⁰⁹⁹ U.S Embassy- New Delhi, *reporting*, January 11, 2007.

collaboratively with NGOs.²¹⁰⁰ However, the U.S. Department of State reports that overall enforcement of child labor laws is inadequate, because of insufficient resources, poorly trained inspectors, low inspector salaries, and social acceptance of child labor.²¹⁰¹ Law enforcement against bonded labor is similarly inadequate. According to Human Rights Watch, there is a lack of meaningful action by vigilance committees, and the U.S. Department of State reports that penalties are too light to serve as an effective deterrent.²¹⁰²

In September 2006, the government established a “nodal cell” responsible for central oversight of anti-trafficking law enforcement efforts. For the most part, however, trafficking crimes are investigated and prosecuted at the state level. Officials continued to arrest and convict persons involved in trafficking, but the U.S. Department of State reports that enforcement is inadequate relative to the scope of the problem.²¹⁰³ According to the U.S. Department of State, enforcement efforts are hampered by police corruption, and a study by ECPAT points to lack of training as a problem. ECPAT also states that complicated procedures thwart efforts to prosecute crimes related to the commercial sexual exploitation of children.²¹⁰⁴ During the reporting period, however, three state governments established, with substantial U.S. Government and UNODC assistance, the first state-level anti-trafficking police units in the country, which has led to an increase in rescues of sex trafficking victims and arrests of traffickers.²¹⁰⁵

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

India’s National Charter for Children (2003) enshrines the country’s commitments to protect children from hazardous child labor and to provide universal access to primary education with a focus on children with special needs.²¹⁰⁶ The MOLE oversees the National Policy on Child Labor (1987), which lays out concrete actions for combating child labor, including legislative reforms and projects to provide direct assistance to children.²¹⁰⁷ These direct assistance projects, collectively known as the National Child Labor Projects (NCLP) Scheme, operate in districts with a high incidence of hazardous labor to identify working children, withdraw them from hazardous work, and provide non-formal education, vocational training, mainstreaming into formal education, stipends, and nutrition supplements. NCLP Societies have been established in 250 districts, in more than 3,700 schools.²¹⁰⁸ The MOLE began public

²¹⁰⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: India," Section 5.

²¹⁰¹ US Embassy- New Delhi, *reporting*, December 15, 2006.

²¹⁰² U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: India." See also Human Rights Watch, *Small Change*, 47.

²¹⁰³ *Ibid.*

²¹⁰⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: India." See also ECPAT International and Aparna Bhat, *Report on Laws and Legal Procedures*, 1, 32.

²¹⁰⁵ US Embassy- New Delhi official, E-mail communication, August 5, 2007.

²¹⁰⁶ Ministry of Women and Child Development, *National Charter for Children*, New Delhi, February 9, 2004, Articles 7 and 8b; available from <http://wcd.nic.in/nationalcharter2003.doc>.

²¹⁰⁷ Ministry of Labour and Employment, *National Policy on Child Labour*, [online] [cited October 16, 2006]; available from <http://labour.nic.in/cwl/CIPolicy.htm>.

²¹⁰⁸ Ministry of Labour and Employment, *Efforts to Eliminate Child Labour*, [online] December 23, 2004 [cited January 30, 2007]; available from http://pib.nic.in/release/rel_print_page1.asp?relid=5985. See also Ministry of

campaigns to raise awareness on child labor, and conducted videoconferences with states to coordinate efforts.²¹⁰⁹ The MOLE's Grants in Aid Scheme operates in a number of districts that do not have NCLP Societies. The program funds projects to provide working children with education and vocational training opportunities, health care, and nutrition.²¹¹⁰ The MOLE also supports a program to train factory inspectors on child labor laws and regulations and sensitize them to the issue of child labor.²¹¹¹ The States of Karnataka, Maharashtra, and Tamil Nadu are implementing state-level action plans to eliminate child labor.²¹¹²

The Government of India and USDOL jointly fund and collaborate on the USD 40 million INDUS project, which targets 80,000 children for withdrawal from work in 10 hazardous sectors: *bidis*, brassware, bricks, fireworks, footwear, glass bangles, locks, matches, quarrying, and silk. The project, implemented by ILO-IPEC, is designed to complement the NCLP program and government primary education initiatives. Target areas are 21 districts in the States of Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, and Uttar Pradesh, as well as the National Capital Territory of Delhi. The project is scheduled to continue through September 2008.²¹¹³

The national and state governments collaborate on a program to rescue and rehabilitate bonded laborers, which includes surveys to identify bonded laborers, stipends of 20,000 rupees (USD 441), as well as training and education for each rescued bonded laborer; and awareness-raising activities. The National Human Rights Commission, an independent body established by the government, works with the MOLE to provide training for district magistrates charged with implementing these identification and rehabilitation programs.²¹¹⁴

The government's Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking and Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Women and Children commits both the national and state governments to legal and regulatory reform, law enforcement, public awareness programs, and rescue, rehabilitation, and reintegration of victims.²¹¹⁵ The Ministry of Women and Child Development coordinates a wide range of anti-trafficking activities in collaboration with NGOs and state governments, including awareness-raising programs; victim rescue; and the provision of counseling, legal aid, medical care, repatriation, and rehabilitative services.²¹¹⁶ In 2006, the Home Ministry

Labour and Employment, *Annual Report of the Ministry of Labour*, 81-82. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: India," Section 6d.

²¹⁰⁹ US Embassy- New Delhi official, E-mail communication, August 5, 2007.

²¹¹⁰ Ministry of Labour and Employment, *Annual Report of the Ministry of Labour*, 6, 82 and 84.

²¹¹¹ U.S. Embassy- New Delhi, *reporting*, September 14, 2005.

²¹¹² U.S. Embassy- New Delhi official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, February 2, 2007.

²¹¹³ ILO-IPEC, *Preventing and Eliminating Child Labor in Identified Hazardous Sectors*, project document, Geneva, September, 2001, 3, 6-7, 18-19. See also Ministry of Labour and Employment, *Annual Report of the Ministry of Labour*, 85. See also ILO-IPEC, *Preventing and Eliminating Child Labor in Identified Hazardous Sectors*, technical progress report, Geneva, September 13, 2006.

²¹¹⁴ Ministry of Labour and Employment, *Annual Report of the Ministry of Labour*, 67-68. See also U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: India." For currency conversion, see OANDA, *FX Converter - Currency Converter for 164 Currencies*, [online] [cited October 17, 2006]; available from <http://www.oanda.com/convert/classic>.

²¹¹⁵ Ambassador Robert D. Blackwill, "Dealing With Trafficking in Persons: Another Dimension of US-India Transformation" (Mumbai, February 18, 2003); available from <http://www.state.gov/p/sca/rls/rm/17900.htm>.

²¹¹⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: India," Section 5.

partnered with UNODC to hold a conference to raise awareness about trafficking and announce resource commitments aimed at addressing the problem.²¹¹⁷ In August 2006, the government ratified the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child Optional Protocol on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography.²¹¹⁸

The Department of Education's Education Guarantee Scheme and Alternative and Innovative Education Program provides non-formal education to out-of-school children, including child laborers.²¹¹⁹

²¹¹⁷ Ibid.

²¹¹⁸ U.S. Embassy New Delhi, *reporting*, March 1, 2007.

²¹¹⁹ Ministry of Human Resource Development- Department of Education, *Education Guarantee Scheme and Alternative and Innovative Education*, [online] [cited October 17, 2006]; available from http://www.education.nic.in/htmlweb/edu_guarantee_sch/edu_guarantee_back.htm.

Indonesia

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

The majority of child work in Indonesia occurs in rural areas. Children work in agriculture on palm oil, cacao, tobacco, and sugar plantations. Children also work in fisheries, construction, manufacturing, footwear production, food processing, and the small-scale mining sector.²¹²⁹ Other children work in the informal sector selling newspapers, shining

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working:	Unavailable
Minimum age for work:	15 ²¹²⁰
Age to which education is compulsory:	15 ²¹²¹
Free public education:	Yes ^{2122*}
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:	117% ²¹²³
Net primary enrollment rate in 2004:	94% ²¹²⁴
Percent of children 5-14 attending school:	Unavailable
As of 2003, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	92% ²¹²⁵
Ratified Convention 138:	6/7/1999 ²¹²⁶
Ratified Convention 182:	3/28/2000 ²¹²⁷
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Yes ²¹²⁸
*Must pay for exam fees, school supplies, and related items.	

²¹²⁰ Ministry of Manpower and Transmigration, *Concerning Jobs that Jeopardize the Health, Safety and Morals of Children*, Decree No. Kep.235/MEN/2003, (October 31, 2003), Article 3; available from http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/natlex_browse.details?p_lang=en&p_country=IDN&p_classification=04&p_origin=SUBJECT.

²¹²¹ Government of Indonesia, *National Child Protection Act*, Law No. 23, (2002), Article 48, 53; available from http://www.ri.go.id/produk_uu/uu-2002.htm. See also U.S. Department of State, "Indonesia," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78774.htm>.

²¹²² Government of Indonesia, *National Child Protection Act*. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Indonesia," Section 5.

²¹²³ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, March 1, 2007.

²¹²⁴ Ibid.

²¹²⁵ Ibid.

²¹²⁶ ILOLEX Database of International Labor Standards, *Ratifications by Country*, accessed June 6, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/newratframeE.htm>.

²¹²⁷ Ibid.

²¹²⁸ ILO, *IPEC Actions Against Child Labour: Highlights 2006*, Geneva, October 2006; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ippec/prod/eng/20061018_Implementationreport_eng.pdf.

²¹²⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Indonesia," Section 5. See also U.S. Embassy Jakarta, *reporting* March 2, 2005. See also ILO-IPEC, *Support to the Indonesian National Action Plan and the Development of the Timebound National Action Programme on the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour*, project document, INS/03/P50/USA, Geneva, September 30, 2003, 2-3. See also End Child Labor, *Indonesia Child Labor by Industry or Occupation*, October 13, 2006; available from http://www.endchildlabor.org/db_infoBank.cfm?Action=View.

shoes, street vending, scavenging, and working beside their parents in family businesses or cottage industries.²¹³⁰ There are also large numbers of street children.²¹³¹ Children, primarily females, are also exploited in domestic service and are often subject to forced labor.²¹³²

Indonesia is primarily a source, and to a lesser extent destination, country for individuals trafficked internationally and internally, including children. Children, primarily girls, are trafficked internationally from Indonesia to Malaysia, Saudi Arabia, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Japan, and Singapore, and are trafficked internally mainly from rural to urban areas. There is emerging evidence that girls are also trafficked into Indonesia, mainly from China.²¹³³ Girls are primarily trafficked both internationally and domestically for commercial sexual exploitation and domestic work, whereas boys are trafficked internally to work on fishing platforms. There are increasing reports of children being trafficked to work in organized begging rings.²¹³⁴ Children are also exploited in the production of pornography and in the international sex industry.²¹³⁵ They are also known to be involved in the production, trafficking, and/or sale of drugs.²¹³⁶ Children have been used as combatants in civilian militia groups in the past, but there was no evidence of this occurring in 2006; it remains unclear whether children are used in other capacities within such groups. Children were not officially recruited into the Indonesian armed forces, but there are allegations of children being used as guards, guides, cooks, informants, and errand-runners.²¹³⁷

²¹³⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Indonesia," Sections 5, 6d. See also Ministry of Manpower and Transmigration, *The National Plan of Action for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor*, Presidential Decree Number 59, (August 13, 2002), 5.

²¹³¹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Indonesia," Section 5. See also End Child Labor, *Child Labor by Industry or Occupation*.

²¹³² U.S. Department of State, "Indonesia (Tier 2 Watchlist)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/65989.htm>. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Indonesia," Sections 5, 6d. See also "Swept Under the Rug: Abuses Against Domestic Workers Around the World," *Human Rights Watch*, 18 no. 7(C) (July, 2006), 53, 54; available from <http://hrw.org/reports/2006/wrd0706/wrd0706webwcover.pdf>. See also "Always on Call: Abuse and Exploitation of Child Domestic Workers in Indonesia," *Human Rights Watch* 17 7(c) (June, 2005).

²¹³³ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Indonesia." See also International Catholic Migration Commission and Solidarity Center, *When They Were Sold: Trafficking of Women and Girls in 15 Provinces of Indonesia*, Jakarta, November 2006, 53-54; available from <http://solidarity.timberlakepublishing.com/content.asp?contentid=638>.

²¹³⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Indonesia." See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Indonesia," Section 5. See also Ruth Rosenberg, ed., *Trafficking of Women and Children in Indonesia*, Jakarta, 2003, 16,19, 31,172; available from <http://solidarity.timberlakepublishing.com/content.asp?contentid=502>. See also International Catholic Migration Commission and Center, *When They Were Sold*, 29, 31, 36-37, 43, 45.

²¹³⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Indonesia," Section 5. See also ECPAT International CSEC Database, *Indonesia*, accessed September 22, 2006; available from http://www.ecpat.net/eng/Ecpat_inter/projects/monitoring/online_database/index.asp. See also Rosenberg, *Trafficking of Women and Children in Indonesia*, 19.

²¹³⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Indonesia," Section 6d. See also Emma Porio and Christine S. Crisol, *The Use of Children in the Production, Sales, and Trafficking of Drugs*, ILO-IPEC, Manila, September 2004, 2. See also ILO-IPEC, *Indonesian Timebound National Action Programme on the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour*, project document, 4.

²¹³⁷ U.S Embassy- Jakarta official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, August 8, 2006. See also Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, *Child Soldier Use 2003: A Briefing for the 4th UN Security Council Open Debate on Children and Armed Conflict*, 2004; available from http://hrw.org/doc/?t=children_pub&document_limit=20,20. See also Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Indonesia," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, London, 2004;

The December 26, 2004 tsunami and the May 27, 2006 Yogyakarta earthquake left thousands of children in Indonesia orphaned or separated from their families and without access to schooling, thus increasing their vulnerability to trafficking and other forms of labor and sexual exploitation. Many of these children are still displaced, without families, and highly vulnerable to exploitive child labor.²¹³⁸

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum age for work at 15.²¹³⁹ The law contains an exception for employing children from 13 up to 15 years to perform light work that does not disrupt their physical, mental, and social development. A set of requirements is outlined for employment of children in this age range, including a maximum of 3 hours of work per day, parental permission, and no disruption of schooling.²¹⁴⁰ Employing and involving children under 18 in the worst forms of child labor or economic exploitation are prohibited under the law; failure to comply can result in criminal sanctions of 2 to 5 years of imprisonment. The law defines the worst forms of child labor as slavery; use of children in prostitution, pornography and gambling; use of children for the production and trade of alcohol, narcotics, and addictive substances; and all types of work harmful to the health, safety and morals of children. The law identifies a list of such harmful activities and provides detailed descriptions and examples of these activities. These include jobs requiring children to work with machines; jobs where physical, chemical, or biological hazards are present; jobs with inherent hazards such as construction, offshore fishing, lifting heavy loads etc; and jobs that harm the morals of the children including working in bars, massage parlors, discotheques, or promoting alcohol or drugs to arouse sexual desire.²¹⁴¹ Persons who expose children to such hazardous activities are liable to terms of up to 5 years of imprisonment or a fine.²¹⁴² An Indonesian decree calls for general programs to ban and abolish worst forms of child labor and improve family income, and for specific programs for non-formal education and returning children to school by providing scholarships.²¹⁴³ Additional specific legal sanctions are laid out against offenses of commercial sexual exploitation, child trafficking, involving children in the production or distribution of alcohol or narcotics, and involving children in armed conflict. Anyone exercising legal

available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=852. See also U.S. Embassy- Jakarta, *reporting* September 8, 2004.

²¹³⁸ Badan Rehabilitasi dan Rekonstruksi (BRR) and International Partners, *Aceh and Nias Once Year After the Tsunami: The Recovery Effort and Way Forward*, 2005; available from <http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/COUNTRIES/EASTASIAPACIFICEXT/0,,contentMDK:20757701~pagePK:146736~piPK:146830~theSitePK:226301,00.html>. See also U.S. Embassy- Jakarta, *reporting*, March 3, 2006.

²¹³⁹ Ministry of Manpower and Transmigration, *Concerning Jobs that Jeopardize the Health, Safety and Morals of Children*, Article 3.

²¹⁴⁰ Republic of Indonesia, *Manpower Development and Protection Act (no. 13)*, (March 25, 2003), Articles 26, 68, 69.

²¹⁴¹ *Ibid.*, Articles 74, 183. See also Ministry of Manpower and Transmigration, *Concerning Jobs that Jeopardize the Health, Safety and Morals of Children*. See also Ministry of Manpower and Transmigration, *Protection of Children Undertaking Jobs to Develop Talent and Interest* Decree No. KEP.115/MEN/VII/2004, (July 7, 2004); available from http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/natlex_browse.details?p_lang=en&p_country=IDN&p_classification=04&p_origin=SUBJECT. See also Ministry of Manpower and Transmigration, *The National Plan of Action WFCL*, 10.

²¹⁴² Government of Indonesia, *National Child Protection Act*, Articles 59-60, 78-89.

²¹⁴³ Government of Indonesia, *Decree of the Minister of Home Affairs and Regional Autonomy on the Control of Child Workers*, Law No. 5, (January 8, 2001). Article 5.

custody of a child under 12 years for the purpose of providing that child to another person, knowing that the child is going to be used for the purposes of begging, harmful work, or work that affects the child's health, may face a maximum sentence of 4 years of imprisonment. The law also prohibits sexual intercourse outside of marriage with a female recognized to be less than 15 years, engaging in an obscene act with a person under 15 years, and forcing or allowing sexual abuse of a child, with maximum penalties ranging from 7 to 12 years of imprisonment. The law also prohibits trafficking of women and boys, with the Penal Code providing a maximum penalty of 6 years of imprisonment for violations and the Child Protection Act stipulating a prison sentence of 3-15 years and/or a fine.²¹⁴⁴ The minimum age for recruitment or enlistment into the armed forces is 18 years.²¹⁴⁵ The law protects children in emergencies, including natural disasters.²¹⁴⁶

Ministry of Manpower authorities at the provincial and district levels have the responsibility for enforcing child labor laws.²¹⁴⁷ The Ministry of Manpower reports that Action Committees on Child Labor have been established in 12 of 33 provinces and in 54 out of 458 districts in Indonesia.²¹⁴⁸ The national police's anti-trafficking unit and other law enforcement bodies have increased efforts to combat trafficking of children. Between January and November 2006, there were 18 trafficking-related convictions.²¹⁴⁹ In 2006, there were five convictions specifically for child trafficking.²¹⁵⁰ Despite these efforts, the U.S. State Department reports that the Indonesian government does not enforce child labor laws in an effective or thorough manner due to corruption, a lack of resources, and lack of child labor inspections.²¹⁵¹

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The 20-year National Plan of Action (NPA) for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor is currently in its first 5-year phase (2002-2006). The first phase, established by Presidential Decree No. 59 (2002), focuses on mapping child labor problems, raising awareness, and eliminating five priority worst forms of child labor: offshore fishing and diving; trafficking for purposes of prostitution; mining; footwear production; and drug trafficking.²¹⁵² The Ministry of Manpower chairs a National Action Committee for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor, which coordinates child labor elimination efforts throughout the country and produces annual reports on the implementation of the

²¹⁴⁴ Government of Indonesia, *Penal Code of Indonesia*, Articles 287-291, 297, 301. Government of Indonesia, *National Child Protection Act*, Articles 80-89.

²¹⁴⁵ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Child Soldiers Global Report 2004."

²¹⁴⁶ Government of Indonesia, *National Child Protection Act*, Articles 59 - 60, 78 - 89. See also Government of Indonesia, *Law No. 39 Concerning Human Rights*, (September 23, 1999), Articles 52-66.

²¹⁴⁷ U.S. Embassy- Jakarta, *reporting*, September 8, 2004.

²¹⁴⁸ U.S. Embassy Jakarta, E-mail communication USDOL official, July 30, 2007.

²¹⁴⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Indonesia " in *Trafficking in Persons Interim Assessment- 2006*, Washington, DC, January 19, 2007; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/rpt/78948.htm>.

²¹⁵⁰ U.S. Embassy Jakarta, *reporting*, December 18, 2006, 9.

²¹⁵¹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Indonesia," Section 6d. See also U.S. Embassy- Jakarta, *reporting*, August 19, 2003. See also U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Indonesia." See also U.S. Embassy-Jakarta, *reporting* March 2, 2005.

²¹⁵² Republic of Indonesia, *The National Plan of Action for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor*, August 13, 2002, 15-16.

NPA.²¹⁵³ The National Plan of Action of Human Rights in Indonesia (2004-2009) contains a specific objective on protecting the rights of the child, with a series of activities aimed at combating trafficking and protecting against sexual exploitation, pornography, and worst forms of child labor.²¹⁵⁴

The National Medium Term Development Plan (2004-2009) recognizes the problem of child labor and supports the implementation of the National Plan on the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor.²¹⁵⁵ The Indonesia Poverty Reduction Strategy (2005-2009) includes objectives of preventing exploitation and the worst forms of child labor, increasing protection for street children and child workers, and preventing child trafficking. In the proposed monitoring and evaluation system, the plan also has a 2009 target to decrease the number of child trafficking cases.²¹⁵⁶ Indonesia is a signatory to a multilateral MOU pledging cooperation on trafficking. Other signatories to the "Coordinated Mekong Ministerial Initiative against Trafficking (COMMIT)" include Burma, Cambodia, China, Laos, Thailand, and Vietnam. The members have a Sub-Regional Plan of Action for 2005-2007, which translates the MOU commitments into concrete actions.²¹⁵⁷

The National Plan of Action to Combat the Trafficking of Women and Children and the National Plan of Action to Combat Commercial Sexual Exploitation are in place to help reduce the trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation of children.²¹⁵⁸ In support of these plans, the national government sponsors a national media campaign to raise awareness on trafficking.²¹⁵⁹ Local governments of Bali, Batam, Dumai, Entikong, and Riau Province have established shelters for trafficking victims.²¹⁶⁰ The Foreign Affairs Ministry operates shelters at its embassies and consulates in several countries including Kuwait, Malaysia, Saudi Arabia, and Singapore.²¹⁶¹ The Indonesian National Police are operating the first-ever medical recovery center for victims of trafficking in Jakarta, and have opened recovery centers in Surabaya,

²¹⁵³ Government of Indonesia, *Presidential Decree on National Action Plan for Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour* No. 12/2001, (January 17, 2001); available from http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/natlex_browse.details?p_lang=en&p_country=IDN&p_classification=04&p_origin=SUBJECT. See also National Action Committee on the Worst Forms of Child Labor, *Report on the Implementation of the National Action Plan for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour (2002-2004 period)*, Jakarta, 2005.

²¹⁵⁴ Republic of Indonesia, *National Plan of Action of Human Rights in Indonesia for 2004-2009*; available from http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/natlex_browse.details?p_lang=en&p_country=IDN&p_classification=01.05&p_origin=COUNTRY&p_sortby=SORTBY_COUNTRY.

²¹⁵⁵ ILO-IPEC, *Support to the Indonesian National Plan of Action and the Development of the Timebound Programme for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour*, technical progress report, Geneva, March 2005, 2. See also Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia, *Indonesia Country Report on the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor*, Washington, March 2005, 4.

²¹⁵⁶ ILO-IPEC, *Support to the Indonesian National Plan of Action*, technical progress report, March 2005.

²¹⁵⁷ United Nations Inter-Agency Project on Human Trafficking in the Greater Mekong Sub-region (UNIAP), *COMMIT Process*, [online] n.d. [cited October 4, 2006]; available from http://www.no-trafficking.org/content/National_Plan/national.html.

²¹⁵⁸ Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia, *Country Report on the Elimination of the WFCL*, 7-8.

²¹⁵⁹ U.S. Embassy- Jakarta, *reporting*, March 3, 2006. See also U.S. Embassy Jakarta, *reporting*, March 12, 2007.

²¹⁶⁰ U.S. Embassy Jakarta, *reporting*, March 3, 2006. See also U.S. Embassy- Jakarta, *reporting*, September 8, 2004. See also U.S. Embassy-Jakarta, *reporting*, March 2, 2005.

²¹⁶¹ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Indonesia." See also U.S. Embassy Jakarta, *reporting*, March 2, 2005. See also U.S. Embassy Jakarta, *reporting*, March 12, 2007.

Pontianak, and Makassar.²¹⁶² Several districts and provinces have established Anti-Trafficking Committees and district action plans to carry out anti-trafficking activities. In 2006, the number of provinces with committees or task forces increased to 17 from 12 in 2005.²¹⁶³ Also in 2006, the numbers of women's help desks, designed to assist exploited women and children, increased to 280 countrywide.²¹⁶⁴ The People's Welfare Coordinating Ministry and the Women's Empowerment Ministry lead the National Anti-trafficking Task Force developed under the plan; they also carry out monitoring of anti-trafficking efforts, produce annual trafficking reports, and train police and other officials.²¹⁶⁵

Several provinces have established a hotline, "Child Helpline 129," to provide emergency assistance to children, including to child laborers. Several provincial governments, such as East Java, Central Java, Yogyakarta, and Bali, undertook specific child labor activities during 2006, including vocational education and training for child laborers, entrepreneurship training for the parents of child laborers, and education scholarships for child laborers.²¹⁶⁶ The Ministry of Women's Empowerment has published non-legally binding guidelines for employing child domestic workers 15 to 18 years, providing good practice examples for employment and policy frameworks related to child domestic workers.²¹⁶⁷ The government maintains the Commission for the Protection of Indonesian Children, responsible for collecting data and undertaking studies on specified child-related topics, for receiving complaints, and for advising the government on public education.²¹⁶⁸

The Government of Indonesia is participating in a USD 4.1 million USDOL-supported ILO-IPEC Timebound Program to progressively eliminate the worst forms of child labor. The program is being implemented from 2003-2007 and aims to withdraw 2,750 children and prevent 9,960 children from exploitive labor in the five priority sectors identified in the National Plan of Action.²¹⁶⁹ In support of the Timebound Program, USDOL also funds a USD 6 million Child Labor Education Initiative project to combat child trafficking in Indonesia. The project aims to withdraw 1,500 child trafficking victims and prevent 17,932 children from being trafficked.²¹⁷⁰ In 2006, the Government of Indonesia also participated in a regional USDOL-funded project that withdrew 367 children and prevented 10,378 children from

²¹⁶² U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Indonesia." See also Save the Children, *Enabling Communities to Combat Child Trafficking through Education (ENABLE)*, technical progress report, September 28, 2005, 3. See also U.S Embassy Jakarta, *reporting, March 12, 2007*.

²¹⁶³ Save the Children, *Enabling Communities to Combat Child Trafficking through Education (ENABLE)*, technical progress report, September 26, 2006. See also Save the Children, *Enabling Communities to Combat Child Trafficking through Education (ENABLE)*, technical progress report, March 20, 2006. See also U.S Embassy Jakarta, *reporting, March 12, 2007*.

²¹⁶⁴ U.S Embassy Jakarta, *reporting, March 12, 2007*.

²¹⁶⁵ U.S Embassy Jakarta, *reporting, March 3, 2006*. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Indonesia," Section 5.

²¹⁶⁶ U.S. Embassy Jakarta, *reporting, December 18, 2006, 17-19*.

²¹⁶⁷ U.S Embassy- Jakarta official, e-mail communication, August 8, 2006.

²¹⁶⁸ U.S. Embassy- Jakarta, *reporting, September 8, 2004*. See also Government of Indonesia, *National Child Protection Act*. Articles 74, 76.

²¹⁶⁹ Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia, *Information Series on Indonesian Effort in Combating Trafficking in Persons: May 2004*, Washington, May 2004, 1. See also ILO-IPEC, *Support to the Indonesian National Plan of Action, technical progress report, March 2005, 1*.

²¹⁷⁰ U.S. Department of Labor, *Enabling Communities to Combat Child Trafficking through Education (ENABLE)*, ILAB Technical Cooperation Project Summary, Washington, DC, 2004.

trafficking throughout the region²¹⁷¹ and a regional USDOL-funded awareness-raising project to eliminate the worst forms of child labor.²¹⁷² In addition, in 2006 the Netherlands completed support to a USD 1.2 million project to eliminate exploitive child domestic work in Indonesia and 7 other countries in the region. Sweden continued to support a USD 428,000 project on child labor and youth employment in Indonesia, Pakistan, Tanzania, Egypt, and Guatemala.²¹⁷³

To address the vulnerability of children to worst forms of child labor in the tsunami-stricken areas of Indonesia, USDOL is funding a USD 1.5 million addendum to the ILO-IPEC Timebound Program and a USD 2.5 million addendum to the Education Initiative project. The ILO-IPEC project aims to prevent 3,000 children from entering exploitive labor, and the Education Initiative project aims to prevent 10,530 children from entering exploitive labor.²¹⁷⁴

The U.S. State Department supports a project that provides technical assistance and policy advocacy training to help local governments establish and implement policies to reduce vulnerability to trafficking.²¹⁷⁵ This project assisted the Indonesian government in developing and passing an anti-trafficking law and supported 50 projects by Indonesian civil society institutions in the areas of prevention and protection.²¹⁷⁶ President Bush included Indonesia as one of eight target countries in his USD 50 million anti-trafficking in persons initiative. Indonesia has received approximately 10 percent of the total funding.²¹⁷⁷

The government is piloting a conditional cash transfer program in six provinces to increase children's participation levels in education and to reduce child labor.²¹⁷⁸ The government is

²¹⁷¹ ILO-IPEC, *Combating Child Trafficking for Labor and Sexual Exploitation (TICSA Phase II)*, technical progress report, Geneva, March 2005, 1. See also ILO-IPEC, *IPEC Actions Against Child Labor 2004-2005: Progress and Future Priorities*, Geneva, February 2006, 31; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ippec/prod/eng/200602_implementationreport_en.pdf.

²¹⁷² ILO-IPEC, *APEC Awareness Raising Campaign: Eliminating the Worst Forms of Child Labour and Providing Educational Opportunities*, technical progress report, Geneva, March 2005, 1. See also National Action Committee on the Worst Forms of Child Labor, *Report on the Implementation of the NPA*. See also ILO-IPEC, *IPEC Actions Against Child Labor 2004-2005*, 31.

²¹⁷³ ILO-IPEC official, E-mail Communication to USDOL official, March 1, 2007.

²¹⁷⁴ ILO-IPEC, *Addendum to Support to the Indonesian National Plan of Action and the Development of the Timebound Programme for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour*, project document, Geneva, February 2005, cover page, 13. See also U.S. Department of Labor, *Enabling Aceh to Combat Exploitation through Education (ENABLE/ACEH)*, ILAB Technical Cooperation Project Summary, Washington, DC, 2005.

²¹⁷⁵ U.S. Department of State, *U.S. Spearheads Women's Programs in East Asia, Pacific*, [online] February 2005 [cited October 13, 2006]; available from <http://usinfo.state.gov/dhr/Archive/2005/Feb/23-799318.html>.

²¹⁷⁶ U.S. Embassy Jakarta, E-mail communication, July 30, 2007.

²¹⁷⁷ U.S. Department of State, *The President's \$50 Million Initiative to Combat Trafficking In Persons: Country Funding*, [online] April 12, 2006 [cited January 29, 2007]; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/fs/2006/69696.htm>. See also U.S. Embassy--Jakarta, *reporting* May 21, 2004.

²¹⁷⁸ ILO-IPEC, *Support to the Indonesia National Plan of Action and the Development of the Timebound Programme for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour*, technical progress report, Geneva, August 1, 2006, Section I. See also Save the Children, *Enabling Aceh to Combat Child Labor through Education (ENABLE/ACEH)*, technical progress report, September 26, 2006, Section I. See also U.S. Embassy Jakarta, *reporting*, December 18, 2006, 12.

also continuing to implement the “Subsidy for School Operational Costs” to remove basic school fees for poor families affected by the elimination of a national oil subsidy.²¹⁷⁹

²¹⁷⁹ ILO-IPEC, *Support to the Indonesia National Plan of Action, technical progress report, August 2006*, Section I. See also Save the Children, *Enabling Communities to Combat Child Trafficking (ENABLE), technical progress report*, Section I.

Iraq

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2000, approximately 14.7 percent of boys and 8.3 percent of girls ages 5 to 14 were working in Iraq.²¹⁹¹ In urban areas, many children work on the streets shining shoes, begging, scavenging through garbage, carrying loads, and selling items such as food, cigarettes, newspapers, and DVDs. Children are found working in shops and markets, on delivery trucks, and as ticket

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 2000:	11.6% ²¹⁸⁰
Minimum age for admission to work:	15 ²¹⁸¹
Age to which education is compulsory:	12 ²¹⁸²
Free public education:	Yes ^{2183*}
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:	98% ^{2184**}
Net primary enrollment rate in 2004:	88% ²¹⁸⁵
Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 2000:	60.5% ²¹⁸⁶
As of 2003, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	77% ²¹⁸⁷
Ratified Convention 138:	2/13/1985 ²¹⁸⁸
Ratified Convention 182:	7/9/2001 ²¹⁸⁹
ILO-IPEC participating country:	No ²¹⁹⁰
* Must pay for school supplies and related items.	
** It is unclear how the conflict in Iraq is affecting children's participation in work and schooling.	

²¹⁸⁰ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, March 1, 2007.

²¹⁸¹ Coalition Provisional Authority, *Coalition Provisional Authority Order 89*, art. 90.1; available from http://www.iraqcoalition.org/regulations/20040530_CPAORD89_Amendments_to_the_Labor_Code-Law_No.pdf.

²¹⁸² U.S. Department of State, "Iraq," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78853.htm>.

²¹⁸³ Government of Iraq, *Constitution of Iraq*, (October 15, 2005); available from <http://www.iraqgovernment.org>. See U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Iraq," section 5. See Ministry of Planning and Development Cooperation, *Iraq Living Conditions Survey 2004, Volume II: Analytical Report*, Baghdad, , 2005, 104; available from <http://www.iq.undp.org/ILCS/PDF/Analytical%20Report%20-%20English.pdf>.

²¹⁸⁴ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

²¹⁸⁵ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Rate. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

²¹⁸⁶ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

²¹⁸⁷ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Survival Rate to Grade 5. Total*, accessed December 18, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

²¹⁸⁸ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, accessed June 16, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/newratframeE.htm>.

²¹⁸⁹ Ibid.

²¹⁹⁰ ILO, *IPEC Action against Child Labour: Highlights 2006*, Geneva, October 2006; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ippec/prod/eng/20061018_Implementationreport_eng.pdf.

²¹⁹¹ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

collectors on buses.²¹⁹² Children are known to work long hours and under hazardous conditions in automobile repair shops and construction sites.²¹⁹³ In rural areas, children are found tending livestock and performing seasonal manual labor.²¹⁹⁴

There are reports of children being exploited as prostitutes and working in the drug trade.²¹⁹⁵ Girls may also be trafficked to Gulf States.²¹⁹⁶ Young boys have been targeted by gangs for sexual exploitation. Girls may be targeted by staff at private orphanages to be sold into prostitution or trafficked out of Iraq for sexual exploitation.²¹⁹⁷ Armed political groups have recruited children as informers, messengers, and as child soldiers.²¹⁹⁸

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The minimum age for employment is 15 years.²¹⁹⁹ The employment of anyone under 16 years in work detrimental to the worker's health, safety, or morals is prohibited.²²⁰⁰ Additional legal requirements regarding the employment of children under 18 include a maximum 7-hour workday, a pre-employment medical examination, a daily rest period of 1 hour after 4 hours of work, and a 30-day paid vacation per year. Employers must maintain a register of names of employees under 18, post a copy of the labor provisions protecting children, and keep minors' medical fitness certificates on file. However, youth 15 or older who are employed in family enterprises are excluded from most of these provisions.²²⁰¹

The law prohibits the worst forms of child labor, defined as slavery and similar practices including forced labor, child trafficking, and compulsory recruitment of minors for use in armed conflict; child prostitution; illicit activities such as drug trafficking; and work likely to harm the health, safety, or morals of children. Promoting, assisting, or benefiting from the

²¹⁹² U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Iraq," section 6d. See also Craig Davis, *Working Paper: Child Labor in Iraq*, November 2, 2004. See also IRINnews, "Children work instead of going to school", IRINnews.org, [online], September 16, 2004 [cited April 2, 2007]; available from http://www.irinnews.org/report.asp?ReportID=43204&SelectRegion=Iraq_Crisis&SelectCountry=IRAQ. See also IRINnews, "IRAQ: Street children face hunger and abuse", IRINnews.org, [online], December 26, 2005 [cited October 18, 2006]; available from <http://www.irinnews.org>.

²¹⁹³ Davis, *Working Paper: Child Labor in Iraq*. See also Coalition Provisional Authority, *Monthly Report, Social Welfare, South Iraq*, Coalition Provisional Authority, Basra, May 2004; available from <https://www422.sslldomain.com/uniraq/documents/Sitrep%20Social%20Affairs.pdf>. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Iraq," section 6d.

²¹⁹⁴ Davis, *Working Paper: Child Labor in Iraq*. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Iraq," section 6d.

²¹⁹⁵ Coalition Provisional Authority, *Social Welfare, South Iraq*. See also Integrated Regional Information Networks, "IRAQ: Children Lured into Drugs and Prostitution", IRINnews.org, [online], February 12, 2007 [cited June 5, 2007]; available from <http://www.irinnews.org/print.asp?ReportID=70094>.

²¹⁹⁶ U.S. Embassy - Baghdad, *reporting*, March 7, 2007. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Iraq," section 5.

²¹⁹⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Iraq," section 5.

²¹⁹⁸ Ibid. See also Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Iraq," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, London, 2004; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=966.

²¹⁹⁹ Coalition Provisional Authority, *Order 89*, Article 90.1. See also Government of Iraq, *Act No. 71 Promulgating the Labour Code*, (July 27, 1987), Article 91.

²²⁰⁰ Coalition Provisional Authority, *Order 89*, Articles 91.1 and 91.2.

²²⁰¹ Ibid., Articles 92, 93, 94, 96.

aforementioned worst forms of child labor is prohibited.²²⁰² Violations of Labor Code provisions pertaining to work performed by children, including the worst forms of child labor, may be penalized by imprisonment for 10 days to 3 months or fines.²²⁰³ There is no compulsory conscription into the Iraqi armed forces, and the minimum voluntary recruitment age is 18.²²⁰⁴

The Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs (MOLSA) is responsible for overseeing labor inspections.²²⁰⁵ According to the U.S. Department of State, MOLSA's Child Labor Unit is unable to enforce child labor laws and remove children from exploitive labor situations because of a lack of inspectors, a lack of resources, and the effects of the ongoing insurgency.²²⁰⁶ The Ministry of Interior (MOI) is responsible for trafficking issues; however, according to the U.S. Department of State, trafficking is not considered a high priority given the security situation, and is not investigated.²²⁰⁷

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Ministry of Public Works and Social Affairs (MOPWSA) has a program to provide stipends to ex-child laborers to keep them out of work and to support their schooling. MOPWSA also supports Mercy House in Baghdad, a facility providing support services to ex-street children and other vulnerable populations.²²⁰⁸ The MOI operates a program to address the issues of children living on the streets.²²⁰⁹ MOLSA operates shelters for orphans, some of whom may be at-risk of becoming involved in exploitive labor.²²¹⁰

²²⁰² Ibid., Articles 91. See also ECPAT International CSEC Database, *Iraq* accessed October 18, 2006; available from <http://www.ecpat.net>. See also Government of Iraq, *Constitution of Iraq*, Article 37.

²²⁰³ Coalition Provisional Authority, *Order 89*, Article 97.

²²⁰⁴ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Global Report 2004."

²²⁰⁵ Government of Iraq, *Act No. 71 Promulgating the Labour Code*, Article 116.

²²⁰⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Iraq," section 6d.

²²⁰⁷ Ibid. See also U.S. Embassy - Baghdad, *reporting, March 7, 2007*.

²²⁰⁸ IRINnews, "Focus on child labour", IRINnews.org, [online], May 9, 2005 [cited April 2, 2007]; available from http://www.irinnews.org/report.asp?ReportID=47022&SelectRegion=Middle_East&SelectCountry=IRAQ. See also IRINnews, "New social programme assists the poor and vulnerable", IRINnews.org, [online], March 31, 2005 [cited April 2, 2007]; available from http://www.irinnews.org/report.asp?ReportID=46404&SelectRegion=Middle_East&SelectCountry=IRAQ.

²²⁰⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Iraq," section 5.

²²¹⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Iraq," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2005*, Washington, DC, March 8, 2006, Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2005/61689.htm>. See also Integrated Regional Information Networks, "IRAQ: Ministry Copes with Rising Numbers of Orphaned Children", IRINnews.org, [online], October 18, 2006 [cited April 18, 2007]; available from <http://www.irinnews.org>.

Jamaica

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2002, approximately 1.2 percent of boys and 0.6 percent of girls ages 5 to 14 years were working in Jamaica.²²²² The majority of working children were found in the services sector (52.4 percent), followed by agriculture (30.6 percent), manufacturing (7.6 percent), and other sectors (9.4 percent).²²²³ According to a joint ILO-IPEC Government of

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 2002:	0.9% ²²¹¹
Minimum age for admission to work:	15 ²²¹²
Age to which education is compulsory:	11 ²²¹³
Free public education:	Yes ^{2214*}
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:	95% ²²¹⁵
Net primary enrollment rate in 2004:	91% ²²¹⁶
Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 2002:	98.9% ²²¹⁷
As of 2002, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	89% ²²¹⁸
Ratified Convention 138:	10/13/2003 ²²¹⁹
Ratified Convention 182:	10/13/2003 ²²²⁰
ILO-IPEC Member:	Yes ²²²¹
*Must pay for school supplies and related items.	

Jamaica survey, children work on plantations, farms, gardens, and construction sites, as well as in commercial fishing, shops, and markets.²²²⁴ Teenage girls as young as 14 are reported to engage in prostitution, especially in tourist areas such as Montego Bay, Kingston, Port

²²¹¹ UNICEF MICS UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, March 1, 2007, Article 10.

²²¹² Government of Jamaica, *Child Care and Protection Act of 2004*, (2004); available from http://www.cda.gov.jm/downloads/Child_Care_and_Protection_Act_2004.pdf.

²²¹³ U.S. Embassy- Kingston, *reporting*, January 9, 2007. See also U.S. Department of State, "Jamaica," in *Country Report on Human Rights Practices- 2005*, Washington, D.C., March 8, 2006, Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2005/61733htm>.

²²¹⁴ U.S. Embassy- Kingston, *reporting*, January 9, 2007.

²²¹⁵ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrollment Ratios, Primary*; accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

²²¹⁶ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Rates. Primary.*, December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

²²¹⁷ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

²²¹⁸ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Survival Rate to Grade 5. Total*, accessed December 18, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

²²¹⁹ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, [cited October 18, 2006]; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/cgi-lex/ratifice.pl?Jamaica>.

²²²⁰ Ibid.

²²²¹ ILO, *Alphabetical list of ILO member countries*, October 5, 2006 [cited October 18, 2006]; available from <http://www.oit.org/public/english/standards/relm/country.htm>.

²²²² UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

²²²³ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Survival Rate to Grade 5. Total*.

²²²⁴ Kristin Fox, Statistical Institute of Jamaica (STATIN), *Statistical Information and Monitoring Program and Child Labour (SIMPOC) of ILO, and UNICEF, Report of Youth Activity Survey 2002*, June 2004., vii.

Antonio, Ocho Rios, and Negril.²²²⁵ Young girls are exploited in bars, casinos, and “go-go” dance clubs.²²²⁶

Jamaica is principally a source country for women and children trafficked within the country for the purposes of commercial sexual exploitation and forced labor. The majority of victims are Jamaican women and girls, and increasingly boys, who are trafficked from rural to urban and tourist areas for sexual exploitation. Some children are subjected to conditions of forced labor as domestic servants.²²²⁷

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law prohibits the employment of children under 15 years, except by parents or guardians in domestic, agricultural, or horticultural work.²²²⁸ Children between 12 and 14 are allowed to work in family businesses; however, they are limited to work no more than 28 hours per week.²²²⁹ Children between 13 and 15 are permitted to engage in “light work,” defined as non-hazardous work that will not interfere with their education, health, or with physical, mental, spiritual, or social development.²²³⁰ The law also prohibits children under 15 from working at night or in any industrial undertaking.²²³¹ The law provides for fines and 6 months to 1 year of imprisonment for the violation of child labor laws.²²³² Children under 18 are prohibited from working in nightclubs, establishments that sell or serve alcohol or tobacco, and from begging on the streets.²²³³ The employment of children in nightclubs, or knowingly renting or allowing one’s premises to be used for “immoral purposes,” is subject to fines or 1 year of imprisonment. Nightclubs employing children are also subject to the revocation of their operating licenses.²²³⁴

The law prohibits procuring a child younger than 18 years for the purpose of prostitution and allows for punishments up to 3 years of imprisonment.²²³⁵ It also subjects those “carnally knowing” a girl under 12 years to punishment of imprisonment for life.²²³⁶ The law prohibits the sale or trafficking of any child and penalizes violators with a fine and or imprisonment up to ten years.²²³⁷ Minors of at least 17.5 years may voluntarily enlist for military training with

²²²⁵ U.S. Department of State, “Jamaica,” in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, D.C., March 6, 2007, Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78897.htm>. See also ECPAT International, *Jamaica*, [database online] [cited September 13, 2006]; available from http://www.ecpat.net/eng/Ecpat_inter/projects/monitoring/online_database/index.asp.

²²²⁶ ECPAT International, *Jamaica*.

²²²⁷ U.S. Department of State, E-mail communication to USDOL official, July 26, 2007.

²²²⁸ *The Education Act* available from <http://www.moj.gov.jm/laws/statutes/The%20Education%20Act.pdf>. See also U.S. Department of State, “Country Reports- 2006: Jamaica,” Section 6d.

²²²⁹ U.S. Embassy- Kingston, *reporting, January 9, 2007*.

²²³⁰ *Ibid.*

²²³¹ U.S. Department of State, “Country Reports- 2006: Jamaica,” Section 6d. See also U.S. Embassy- Kingston, *reporting, January 9, 2007*.

²²³² U.S. Embassy- Kingston, *reporting, January 9, 2007*.

²²³³ U.S. Department of State, “Country Reports- 2006: Jamaica,” Section 5. See also U.S. Embassy- Kingston, *reporting, January 9, 2007*.

²²³⁴ U.S. Embassy- Kingston, *reporting, January 9, 2007*.

²²³⁵ *Offenses Against the Person Act*, Article 58.

²²³⁶ *Ibid.*, Article 48.

²²³⁷ U.S. Department of State, “Country Reports- 2006: Jamaica,” Section 5. See also U.S. Embassy- Kingston, *reporting, March 2, 2005*. See also *Child Care and Protection Act* Article 10.

parental consent, but they must be 18 years old upon graduating from training.²²³⁸ In 2007, the government passed comprehensive anti-trafficking legislation that specifically prohibits the trafficking of children for labor or commercial sexual exploitation. Penalties include fines and up to 10 years imprisonment.²²³⁹

The police are authorized to conduct child labor inspections.²²⁴⁰ However, the lack of officers dedicated to this task contributes to the challenge of effective enforcement, as does the fact that child labor is likely to occur more often in informal sectors. The Child Development Agency (CDA) is responsible for carrying out investigations of abuse and finding places of safety for children subject to exploitation; it makes efforts to prevent child labor violations by conducting public education and community outreach.²²⁴¹ A police anti-trafficking unit has been established to oversee trafficking policy coordination, and an anti-trafficking coordinator has been appointed in the Office of the Prime Minister. The government is conducting investigations of several trafficking cases and has charged a night club owner for operating a brothel employing children for sexual exploitation.²²⁴² While the police have conducted raids of night clubs, few convictions have resulted.²²⁴³

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Government of Jamaica has undertaken a high-profile anti-trafficking campaign to coincide with the 2007 Cricket World Cup.²²⁴⁴ In addition, a comprehensive assessment of trafficking is being implemented to ascertain the extent of the problem.²²⁴⁵ Moreover, in conjunction with the IOM, the government has trained police officers, immigration officers, and other government employees on trafficking investigations.²²⁴⁶ The CDA has been operating shelters for child trafficking victims and has established a mechanism for reporting exploitation.²²⁴⁷

²²³⁸ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Jamaica," in *Global Report 2004*; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=831.

²²³⁹ U.S. Department of State, E-mail communication, July 26, 2007.

²²⁴⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Jamaica." Section 6d. See also *Labour Officers (Powers) Act*, Section 3.

²²⁴¹ Jamaica Information Service, *CDA Holds Community Outreach in Rocky Point*, [online] September 25, 2006 [cited October 21, 2006]; available from <http://www.jis.gov.jm/>. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Jamaica," Section 6d. See also Jamaica Information Service, *Jamaica Making Strides in Safeguarding Children's Rights*, [online] February 22, 2005 [cited October 21, 2006]; available from <http://www.jis.gov.jm/>.

²²⁴² U.S. Embassy- Kingston, *reporting*, February 28, 2006.

²²⁴³ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Jamaica," Section 5.

²²⁴⁴ U.S. Embassy- Kingston, *reporting* March 1, 2007.

²²⁴⁵ *Ibid.*

²²⁴⁶ *Ibid.*

²²⁴⁷ Office of the Press Secretary White House Press Release, "Presidential Determination with Respect to Foreign Governments' Efforts Regarding Trafficking in Persons," (Washington, DC), September 21, 2005. See also U.S. Embassy- Kingston, *reporting*, March 2, 2005.

Jordan

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Working children in Jordan are primarily concentrated in the governorates of Amman, Balqa, Irbid, Ma'an, and Zarka.²²⁵⁷ According to a study by the Ministry of Labor (MOL) published in 2002, children work in automobile repair, carpentry, sales, blacksmithing, tailoring, construction, and food services.²²⁵⁸ Children also

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working:	Unavailable
Minimum age for admission to work:	16 ²²⁴⁸
Age to which education is compulsory:	16 ²²⁴⁹
Free public education:	Yes ²²⁵⁰
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2005:	96% ²²⁵¹
Net primary enrollment rate in 2005:	89% ²²⁵²
Percent of children 5-14 attending school:	Unavailable
As of 2003, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	99% ²²⁵³
Ratified Convention 138:	3/23/1998 ²²⁵⁴
Ratified Convention 182:	4/20/2000 ²²⁵⁵
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Yes ²²⁵⁶

work in the informal sector in agriculture, domestic labor, and in small family businesses.²²⁵⁹ Because of deteriorating economic conditions, the number of working street children and child beggars may be greater now than it was 10 years ago.²²⁶⁰ Many child beggars are forced to beg

²²⁴⁸ Government of Jordan, *Labour Code, Law No. 8 of 1996*, Article 73; available from <http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/docs/WEBTEXT/45676/65048/E96JOR01.htm#c1>.

²²⁴⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Jordan," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78855.htm>.

²²⁵⁰ Ibid. See also U.S. Embassy- Amman, *reporting* May 26, 2005.

²²⁵¹ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

²²⁵² UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Rate. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

²²⁵³ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Survival Rate to Grade 5. Total*, accessed December 18, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

²²⁵⁴ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, accessed June 16, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/newratframeE.htm>.

²²⁵⁵ Ibid.

²²⁵⁶ ILO, *IPEC Action Against Child Labour Highlights 2006*, Geneva, October 2006; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ipcc/prod/eng/20061018_Implementationreport_eng.pdf.

²²⁵⁷ Ministry of Labor, *Towards a Healthy Environment for Children 2003*, Amman, , 2003.

²²⁵⁸ Mohammed Shahateet and Nihaya Issa Dabdub, *Estimating Child Labour in Jordan: 1991-2005*, Ministry of Labor, Amman, October 2002, p 15-16.

²²⁵⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Jordan," Section 6d.

²²⁶⁰ Ibid.

by their parents.²²⁶¹ Some working children are victims of physical, verbal, and sexual abuse in the workplace and are exposed to hazardous chemicals and dangerous working conditions.²²⁶²

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

Jordanian law sets the minimum working age at 16 years, except for apprentices, and the minimum age for hazardous jobs at 18 years.²²⁶³ Pursuant to the 2004 amendments to the labor code, children under 18 years shall not perform work with mechanically operated equipment; with oil and gas machines; requiring scuba diving equipment; in construction in which the worker is exposed to noise, vibration, high air pressure, radiation, or dust; underground; and in offices, hotels, restaurants, or nightclubs.²²⁶⁴ Minors must be given a rest break after 4 hours of work and may not work more than 6 hours per day during weekends and holidays or at night. Before hiring a minor, a prospective employer must obtain a guardian's written approval, the minor's birth certificate, and a health certificate.²²⁶⁵

Compulsory labor is prohibited, by the Constitution, except in circumstances of war or natural disaster.²²⁶⁶ The law prohibits voluntary enlistment into the government armed forces for children less than 16 years, although children may be enlisted as cadets at 15.²²⁶⁷ A child may be legally recruited into the armed forces at 17.²²⁶⁸ The law provides for the death penalty for anyone who uses a minor in the production, transportation, sale, or purchase of drugs.²²⁶⁹ Jordanian law specifically prohibits trafficking in children.²²⁷⁰ It is illegal to induce a girl under 20 to engage in prostitution or to entice any child under 15 to commit sodomy. Sanctions for these offenses include imprisonment for up to 5 years.²²⁷¹

The Child Labor Unit (CLU) of the MOL is primarily responsible for monitoring child labor, collecting and analyzing data, and reviewing and ensuring the enforcement of existing

²²⁶¹ U.S. Embassy - Amman, *reporting* August 28, 2005.

²²⁶² Muntaha Gharaibeh and Shirley Hoeman, "Health Hazards and Risks for Abuse Among Child Labor in Jordan," *Journal of Pediatric Nursing* 18, no. 2 (2003), p 140, 143. See ILO Committee of Experts, *Direct Request, Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182) Jordan (ratification: 2000)*, [online] 2004 [cited June 30, 2006]; available from <http://webfusion.ilo.org/public/db/standards/normes/appl/>.

²²⁶³ Government of Jordan, *Labour Code of 1996*, Chapter VIII, Sections 73-74. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Jordan," Section 6d.

²²⁶⁴ ILO Committee of Experts, *Direct Request CEACR comments on 182*.

²²⁶⁵ *Labour Code, Law No. 8 of 1996*, Section 75, 76; available from <http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/docs/WEBTEXT/45676/65048/E96JOR01.htm#c1>.

²²⁶⁶ Government of Jordan, *Constitution of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan*, (1952), Chapter 2, Article 13; available from <http://www.mfa.gov.jo/uploads/const.pdf>.

²²⁶⁷ UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Periodic Reports of States Parties Due in 1998 (Addendum)*, September 17, 1999, para 160-162; available from

[http://www.unhcr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/\(Symbol\)/a06f687951c4fc1080256846003b7763?Opendocument](http://www.unhcr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/(Symbol)/a06f687951c4fc1080256846003b7763?Opendocument). See also Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Jordan," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, London 2004; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=957.

²²⁶⁸ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, *The Use of Child Soldiers in the Middle East and North Africa Region*, prepared by Ibrahim Al-Marashi, pursuant to the Amman Conference on the Use of Children as Soldiers, April 8-10, 2001, 19; available from http://www.id.gov.jo/human/activities2000/middleeast_report.html.

²²⁶⁹ ILO Committee of Experts, *Direct Request CEACR comments on 182*.

²²⁷⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Jordan," Section 5.

²²⁷¹ ILO Committee of Experts, *Direct Request CEACR comments on 182*.

legislation.²²⁷² The MOL's inspection division, which comprises 72 inspectors, is mandated to inspect all registered establishments with more than five employees.²²⁷³ The government, however, has provided little training on child labor, and inspectors generally try to remedy the situation through informal mechanisms, including referring some adult family members to job training programs.²²⁷⁴ According to the National Council for Family Affairs (NCFA) and the ILO Committee of Experts, current labor inspection mechanisms are inadequate in terms of their frequency, scope, outreach, and quality of reporting. Most working children work in establishments employing five workers or less, over which labor inspectors have no jurisdiction.²²⁷⁵

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The National Agenda for the years 2006-2015, "The Jordan We Strive For," was passed in late 2006. It includes the elimination of the worst forms of child labor as a major goal.²²⁷⁶ The Ministry of Labor launched an aggressive media campaign in June 2006 to raise awareness of child labor issues to discourage the employment of minors.²²⁷⁷ The Jordanian National Plan of Action (NPA) for Children 2004-2013 was launched by King Abdullah II and Queen Rania in October 2004.²²⁷⁸ Among other goals, the NPA aims to eliminate the worst forms of child labor in Jordan by 2014 and to decrease the number of child laborers under 16 years.²²⁷⁹

USDOL is supporting a USD 1 million ILO-IPEC project to combat child labor in the urban services sector in Jordan, which is being undertaken with the cooperation of the Ministries of Labor, Education, and Social Development. The program aims to withdraw 3,000 and prevent an additional 500 potential workers from the worst forms of child labor over 5 years; mainstream them into non-formal and formal education programs; provide them with pre-vocational and vocational training; and support them with counseling, health care, and recreational activities.²²⁸⁰ Recognizing the link between the lack of education and child labor, the Ministry of Education (MOE) addresses child labor issues in its 2003-2015 Educational Development Plan.²²⁸¹

²²⁷² ILO-IPEC, *National Programme for the Prevention and Elimination of Child Labour in Jordan*, project document, Geneva, September 16, 2002, 20. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Jordan," Section 6d.

²²⁷³ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Jordan," Section 6d. See ILO Committee of Experts, *Direct Request CEACR comments on 182*.

²²⁷⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Jordan," Section 6d.

²²⁷⁵ *Ibid.*

²²⁷⁶ ILO-IPEC, *National Programme to Eliminate Child Labor in Jordan, technical progress report*, Geneva, August 11, 2006, p 2.

²²⁷⁷ Integrated Regional Information Networks, "Jordan: Government to Launch Awareness Campaign on Child Labor", IRINnews.org, [online], 2006 [cited November 3, 2006]; available from www.irinnews.org/report.asp?ReportID=53587&SelectRegion=Middle_East&Select...

²²⁷⁸ UNICEF, *Jordan Launches National Plan of Action for Children*, [online] October 25, 2004 [cited June 17, 2005]; available from http://www.unicef.org/media/media_23864.html.

²²⁷⁹ UNICEF, *The Jordanian National Plan of Action for Children (2004-2013)*, [online] [cited June 17, 2005]; available from http://www.unicef.org/jordan/resources_809.html.

²²⁸⁰ ILO-IPEC, *National Program in Jordan, project document*, 26-27.

²²⁸¹ *Ibid.*, 7.

Kazakhstan

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Most working children in rural areas of Kazakhstan are involved in agriculture.²²⁹⁰ Many children migrate to Kazakhstan during the harvest season to work in the cotton and tobacco industry.²²⁹¹ Children working in the cotton and tobacco industry suffer from limited rest time, malnutrition, and limited access to health care.²²⁹²

In urban areas, the country's increasingly formalized labor market has led to a decrease in many forms of child work. However, children are still found begging, loading freight, delivering goods in markets, washing cars, and working at gas stations.²²⁹³

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working:	Unavailable
Minimum age of work:	16 ²²⁸²
Age to which education is compulsory:	16 or grade 9 ²²⁸³
Free public education:	Yes ²²⁸⁴
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2002:	102 ²²⁸⁵
Net primary enrollment rate in 2002:	91% ²²⁸⁶
Percent of children 5-14 attending school:	Unavailable
Percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	Unavailable
Ratified Convention 138:	5/18/2001 ²²⁸⁷
Ratified Convention 182:	2/26/2003 ²²⁸⁸
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Yes, associated ²²⁸⁹

²²⁸² Government of Kazakhstan, *Labour Law of the Republic of Kazakhstan, 1999*, (January 2000), Section 11, no. 1; available from <http://natlex.ilo.org/txt/E99KAZ01.htm>.

²²⁸³ U.S. Department of State, "Kazakhstan," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78820.htm>. See also UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Initial Reports of States parties due in 1996: Kazakhstan, CRC/C/41/Add.13*, prepared by The Republic of Kazakhstan, pursuant to Article 44 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, September 24, 2002, paras. 257 and 267; available from <http://www.unhchr.ch/>.

²²⁸⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Kazakhstan," Section 5. See also UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Initial reports of Kazakhstan, CRC/C/41/Add.13*, paras. 257 and 267.

²²⁸⁵ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross and Net Enrolment Ratios, Primary; [Total,] accessed December 2005*; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>

²²⁸⁶ Ibid.

²²⁸⁷ ILO, *List of Ratifications of International Labor Conventions, Minimum Age Convention, 1973*, February 5, 2007; available from <http://webfusion.ilo.org/public/db/standards/normes/appl/appl-byConvYear.cfm?hdroff=1&Lang=EN&conv=C138>.

²²⁸⁸ ILO, *List of Ratifications of International Labor Conventions, Worst Forms of Child Labor Convention, 1999*, February 5, 2007; available from <http://webfusion.ilo.org/public/db/standards/normes/appl/appl-byConvYear.cfm?hdroff=1&Lang=EN&conv=C182>.

²²⁸⁹ ILO-IPEC, *IPEC Action Against Child Labor: Highlights 2006*, Geneva, October 2006, 29; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ippec/prod/eng/20061019_Implementationreport_eng_Web.pdf.

²²⁹⁰ ILO-IPEC, *CAR Capacity Building Project: Regional Program on the Worst Forms of Child Labour*, project document, RER/04/P54/USA, Geneva, September 2004, 5-7. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Kazakhstan," Section 6d. See also ILO-IPEC, *Child Labour in Tobacco and Cotton Growing in Kazakhstan: Rapid Assessment Report*, Almaty, 2006.

²²⁹¹ ILO-IPEC, *Child Labour in Tobacco and Cotton Growing in Kazakhstan: Rapid Assessment Report*, vii.

²²⁹² Ibid., ix.

²²⁹³ ILO-IPEC, *CAR Capacity Building Project, project document*, 5-7. See also U.S. Embassy- Almaty, *reporting*, August 22, 2004. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Kazakhstan," Section 6d.

Reports also indicate a rise in the number of children exploited in prostitution and pornography in urban areas. Police estimate that one-third of all street prostitutes in Kazakhstan are minors.²²⁹⁴ Children working as domestic servants are often less visible to law enforcement officials and thus are vulnerable to exploitation.²²⁹⁵ The trafficking of children is a problem in Kazakhstan.²²⁹⁶

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum age for employment at 16 years.²²⁹⁷ However, children may work at age 15 with parental consent if they have completed their compulsory education.²²⁹⁸ With parental consent, children 14 years or older may perform light work, if the work does not interfere with school attendance or pose a health threat.²²⁹⁹ Children under 18 are prohibited from working in dangerous conditions, overtime, or at night. Children between 16 and 18 may not work more than 36 hours per week. Children between 15 and 16 years (or 14 and 16 years during non-school periods) may not work more than 24 hours per week. The labor authorities determine a list of dangerous occupations in which children are prohibited from working.²³⁰⁰

The constitution prohibits forced labor, except under a court mandate or in a state of emergency.²³⁰¹ The minimum age for compulsory military service is 18.²³⁰² The law prohibits the involvement of minors in the creation and advertisement of erotic products.²³⁰³ Procuring a minor to engage in prostitution, begging, or gambling is illegal and punishable by up to 3 years of imprisonment.²³⁰⁴ The keeping of brothels for prostitution and pimping is outlawed and punishable by 2 to 5 years of imprisonment.²³⁰⁵ New laws enacted in 2006 impose a 10-year prison sentence if a minor is involved in trafficking and a 12-year sentence if persons are trafficked abroad.²³⁰⁶

The Ministry of Labor is responsible for enforcing child labor laws and imposing fines for administrative offenses. The Ministry of the Interior is responsible for investigating criminal child labor offenses.²³⁰⁷ The Ministry of Labor has 400 labor inspectors. Each of the country's 16 districts has labor inspectors. They are empowered to levy fines for labor violations and

²²⁹⁴ Liz Kelly, *Fertile Fields: Trafficking in Persons in Central Asia*, International Organization for Migration, April 2005, 61.

²²⁹⁵ ILO-IPEC, *CAR Capacity Building Project, project document*, 8.

²²⁹⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Kazakhstan," Section 5.

²²⁹⁷ Government of Kazakhstan, *Labour Law*, Section 11, no. 1.

²²⁹⁸ *Ibid.*, Section 11, no. 2. See also U.S. Embassy- Almaty, *reporting*, August 22, 2004.

²²⁹⁹ Government of Kazakhstan, *Labour Law*, Section 11, no. 3.

²³⁰⁰ *Ibid.*, Sections 46-49.

²³⁰¹ Government of Kazakhstan, *Constitution of the Republic of Kazakhstan*, Article 24. See also Government of Kazakhstan, *Labour Law*, Section 6.

²³⁰² Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, *Child Soldiers Global Report- Kazakhstan*, November 17, 2004; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=909.

²³⁰³ UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Initial reports of Kazakhstan*, CRC/C/41/Add.13, para 355.

²³⁰⁴ *Criminal Code of the Kazakh Republic as cited by The Protection Project, Kazakhstan*, March, 2002.

²³⁰⁵ *Ibid.*

²³⁰⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Kazakhstan," Section 5.

²³⁰⁷ *Ibid.*, Section 6d.

refer criminal cases to law enforcement authorities.²³⁰⁸ Mandatory licensing laws for tourist agencies were enforced by the Procurator's Office, and inspections were conducted throughout the year to uncover agencies involved in trafficking.²³⁰⁹ However, the U.S. Department of State reports that endemic corruption and bribery of law enforcement officials has hampered anti-trafficking efforts.²³¹⁰

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

A National Plan to Combat Trafficking covering the years 2006-2008 was developed by an interagency working group including the Ministries of Justice, Internal Affairs, Foreign Affairs, Education and Science, Labor and Social Welfare, Culture, Information and Sports; the Procurator General; and the Commission on Women and Family.²³¹¹ The Children for Kazakhstan National Program (2006-2011) was approved during the 2006. It aims to create a comprehensive national child protection strategy.²³¹²

The government, the IOM, and 19 local NGOs have cooperated on an anti-trafficking information campaign, and the Ministry of Justice has distributed a booklet for Kazakh migrant workers and maintained a hotline for victims.²³¹³ In cooperation with the IOM and other NGOs, the government is also participating in several other awareness programs to prevent trafficking, prosecute offenders, and assist victims.²³¹⁴ Local governments have supported and cooperated with NGOs to provide services to victims.²³¹⁵ Public and private media have been required to broadcast government-sponsored anti-trafficking public service announcements.²³¹⁶ The Ministry of Education has stated that anti-trafficking components are included in the curriculum of all high schools and colleges.²³¹⁷

²³⁰⁸ U.S. Embassy- Almaty, *reporting*, August 22, 2004.

²³⁰⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Kazakhstan," Section 5.

²³¹⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Kazakhstan (Tier 2)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/>.

²³¹¹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Kazakhstan," Section 5.

²³¹² ILO-IPEC, *CAR Capacity Building Regional Program on the Worst Forms of Child Labour*, technical progress Report, Geneva, August 31, 2006, 2.

²³¹³ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Kazakhstan." See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Kazakhstan," Section 5.

²³¹⁴ IOM, *Combating Trafficking in Persons in Central Asia: Prevention, Prosecution, Protection (ASPPP)*, accessed October 22, 2006; available from <http://www.iom.int/iomwebsite/Project/ServletSearchProject?Category=1%3BCounter-Trafficking®ion=0%3B%28any%29&title=&keyWord=&resultPerPage=25&event=search&search=Search>. See also IOM, *Prevention of Trafficking in Persons and Protection (PTPP) of Victims of Trafficking From, To, Through and Within Kazakhstan*, accessed October 22, 2006; available from <http://www.iom.int/iomwebsite/Project/ServletSearchProject&Category=1%3BCounter-Trafficking®ion=0%3B%28any%29&country=0%3B%28any%29&title=&keyWord=&resultPerPage=25&event=search&search=Search>.

²³¹⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Kazakhstan."

²³¹⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Kazakhstan," Section 5.

²³¹⁷ Ibid.

USDOL is funding a 3-year USD 2.5 million ILO-IPEC project that will build the capacity of national institutions to eliminate the worst forms of child labor as well as share information and experiences in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan.²³¹⁸

²³¹⁸ ILO-IPEC, *CAR Capacity Building Project*, project document, vii.

Kenya

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2000, approximately 34.7 percent of boys and 30.4 percent of girls 5 to 14 were working in Kenya.²³³⁰ Children work in the informal sector and with their families—in businesses as well as in agriculture. Children work in commercial and subsistence agriculture, and work with their families on tea, coffee, rice, and sugar

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 2000:	32.5% ²³¹⁹
Minimum age of work:	16 ²³²⁰
Age to which education is compulsory:	14 ²³²¹
Free public education:	Yes ^{2322*}
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:	111% ²³²³
Net primary enrollment rate in 2004:	76% ²³²⁴
Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 2000:	74.9% ²³²⁵
As of 2003 percentage of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	75% ²³²⁶
Ratified Convention 138:	4/9/1979 ²³²⁷
Ratified Convention 182:	5/7/2001 ²³²⁸
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Yes ²³²⁹
*Must pay for school supplies and related items.	

²³¹⁹ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, March 1, 2007.

²³²⁰ ILO, *Report of the Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations (articles 2, 3, 6, 7 and 8 of the Minimum Age Convention): Kenya*, ILO Conference, 93rd session, Geneva, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/gbe/ceacr2006.htm>. See also U.S. Department of State, "Kenya," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 6d; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78740.htm>.

²³²¹ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *National Education Systems*, accessed September 25, 2006; available from http://www.uis.unesco.org/statsen/statistics/yearbook/tables/Table3_1.html. See also ILO, *Report of the Committee of Experts: Kenya*. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Kenya," Section 5.

²³²² ILO-IPEC, *Supporting the National Plan of Action for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour in Kenya*, project document, Geneva, September 6, 2004, 6. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Kenya," Section 6d.

²³²³ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

²³²⁴ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Rate. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

²³²⁵ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

²³²⁶ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Survival Rate to Grade 5. Total*, accessed December 18, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

²³²⁷ ILO, *Ratifications by Country* accessed October 7, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/newratframeE.htm>

²³²⁸ Ibid.

²³²⁹ ILO-IPEC, *IPEC Action Against Child Labour: Highlights 2006*, [online] 2006 [cited October 18, 2006], 30; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ippec/prod/eng/20070228_Implementationreport_en_Web.pdf.

²³³⁰ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

plantations.²³³¹ Children work in herding and in fisheries. Children also work in domestic service, construction, transport, quarries, and mines, including gold mines. Street children work in the informal sector.²³³²

Children are reported to engage in prostitution in bars, discos, brothels, massage parlors, and on the streets. While the majority of children exploited in prostitution are between 13 and 17, children as young as 9 are reported to be involved.²³³³ Many girls who hawk or beg during the day reportedly engage in prostitution at night. In the agricultural sector, girls are sometimes forced to provide sexual services in order to obtain plantation work. Sudanese and Somali refugee children are also alleged to be involved in prostitution in Kenya.²³³⁴ The growth of the tourism industry has been accompanied by an increase in children's involvement in prostitution.²³³⁵

In 2006, UNICEF released a study on sex tourism and the commercial sexual exploitation of children along Kenya's coast. The report found that in the coastal towns of Malindi, Mombasa, Kalifi, and Diana, up to 15,000 girls or up to 30 percent of all children 12 to 18 years living in these areas engage in "casual" prostitution.²³³⁶ It found that up to 3,000 additional boys and girls were engaged in prostitution on a full-time, year-round basis, and that 45 percent of girls involved in prostitution and sex tourism were between 12 and 13 when they first engaged in transactional sex.²³³⁷

Kenyan boys between 15 and 18 years are trafficked to the Middle East for labor exploitation.²³³⁸ Within Kenya, children are trafficked for domestic service, street vending, agricultural work, and commercial sexual exploitation. Kenya's coastal area is a known destination for trafficked children to be exploited in sex tourism.²³³⁹ Poverty, the death of one or both parents, and self-interest may contribute to a family's decision to place a child with better-off relatives, friends, or acquaintances, who may end up trafficking and/or exploiting the child. Child trafficking in Kenya occurs mainly through personal and familial networks.²³⁴⁰

²³³¹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Kenya," Section 6d.

²³³² ILO-IPEC, *Supporting the National Plan of Action for the Elimination of Child Labor*, project document, vi, 42. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Kenya," Section 6d.

²³³³ ECPAT International CSEC Database, *Kenya*, accessed October 7, 2006; available from <http://www.ecpat.net>. See also U.S. Embassy- Nairobi official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, August 11, 2006.

²³³⁴ ECPAT International CSEC Database, *Kenya*.

²³³⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Kenya," Sections 5 and 6d.

²³³⁶ U.S. Embassy- Nairobi, *reporting*, December 20, 2006. See also Chris Niles, *Report Reveals Kenyan Child Sex Industry of 'Horrific' Magnitude*, [online] [cited April 1, 2007]; available from http://www.unicef.org/protection/kenya_37817.html.

²³³⁷ U.S. Embassy- Nairobi, *reporting*, December 20, 2006.

²³³⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Kenya," Section 5.

²³³⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Kenya (Tier 2 Watch List)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/65989.htm>. See also U.S. Embassy- Nairobi official, E-mail communication, August 11, 2006.

²³⁴⁰ U.S. Embassy- Nairobi official, E-mail communication, August 11, 2006.

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum age for employment at 16 years.²³⁴¹ The law on minimum age does not apply to children who work in agriculture or apprenticeships.²³⁴² The law, however, prohibits all forms of child labor that are hazardous, exploitive, or would prevent children under 16 years from attending school.²³⁴³

The Kenyan Constitution prohibits slavery, bonded and forced labor, and servitude, including by children.²³⁴⁴ The law prohibits the procurement of girls under 21 for the purpose of unlawful sexual relations,²³⁴⁵ the commercial sexual exploitation of children, and the transportation of children for sale.²³⁴⁶ On July 14, 2006, President Kibaki signed into law the Sexual Offenses Act, which specifically criminalizes child trafficking, trafficking for sexual exploitation, child prostitution, child pornography and sex tourism, rape and defilement. For child trafficking, the minimum penalty is 10 years of imprisonment plus a fine, and for trafficking for sexual exploitation, the minimum penalty is 15 years of imprisonment, a fine, or both. If a girl under 14 years is raped, the perpetrator is considered to have committed the lesser offense of "defilement" under Kenyan law. The new law also provides harsher penalties for defilement than it does for rape.²³⁴⁷ The law also prohibits children under 18 years from being recruited into the military and holds the government responsible for protecting, rehabilitating, and reintegrating children involved in armed conflict into society.²³⁴⁸

The Ministry of Labor and Human Resource Development is responsible for enforcing child labor laws, but, according to the U.S. Department of State, the Ministry's enforcement of the minimum age law continues to be nominal.²³⁴⁹

The police anti-trafficking unit and the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) are responsible for combating trafficking, but, according to the U.S. Department of State, are not yet effective.²³⁵⁰

²³⁴¹ ILO, *Report of the Committee of Experts: Kenya*. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Kenya," Section 6d.

²³⁴² U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Kenya," Section 6d.

²³⁴³ Ibid. See also ILO NATLEX National Labor Law Database, *Children Act, 2001 (No. 8 of 2001)*, accessed October 8, 2006; available from http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/natlex_browse.home.

²³⁴⁴ *The Constitution of Kenya*, (Revised edition (1998) 1992); available from <http://kenya.rcbowen.com/constitution/>. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Kenya," Section 6c.

²³⁴⁵ Government of Kenya, *Penal Code*, [previously online] 1955, Section 147; available from <http://209.190.246.239/protectionproject/statutesPDF/Kenya1.pdf> [hard copy on file]. See also ECPAT International CSEC Database, *Kenya*.

²³⁴⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Kenya," Section 5.

²³⁴⁷ Ibid. See also U.S. Embassy- Nairobi official, E-mail communication, August 11, 2006.

²³⁴⁸ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Kenya," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, London, 2004; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=803.

²³⁴⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Kenya," Section 6d. See also U.S. Embassy- Nairobi, *reporting*, September 14, 2005.

²³⁵⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Kenya," Section 5. See also U.S. Embassy- Nairobi official, Email communication to USDOL official, July 31, 2007.

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Government of Kenya's National Development Plan for 2002-2008 recognizes child labor as a problem and calls for an evaluation of the impact of child labor on the individual and the country, as well as its implications on the quality of the future labor force.²³⁵¹

In February 2006, the government renewed the 3-year mandate for the National Steering Committee on the Elimination of Child Labor. An Inter-Ministerial Coordination Committee on Child Labor chaired by the vice president is responsible for setting general policy.²³⁵² In December 2006, the Ministry of Home Affairs, in collaboration with the Offices of the President and Vice President and the Ministries of Labor, Education, and Tourism, established a National Steering Committee to combat human trafficking. Several ministries continued to implement a trafficking education, awareness, and inspection program for the country's 68 foreign employment agencies.²³⁵³

The Government of Kenya continues to participate in a 4-year, USD 5 million Project of Support to the Kenya Timebound Program on the Elimination of Child Labor funded by USDOL and implemented by ILO-IPEC. The project aims to withdraw 15,000 children and prevent 7,000 children from exploitive labor in domestic service, commercial sexual exploitation, commercial and subsistence agriculture, fishing, herding, and informal-sector street work.²³⁵⁴ The government collaborated with ILO-IPEC on the USD 5.3 million, regional project, Building the Foundations for Eliminating the Worst Forms of Child Labor in Anglophone Africa, funded by USDOL. This project withdrew a total of 6611 children and prevented 8061 from exploitive labor in five countries, including Kenya.²³⁵⁵ The Government of Kenya also collaborates on the 4-year, USD 14.5 million Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, and Ethiopia Together (KURET) Project funded by USDOL and implemented by World Vision, in partnership with the International Rescue Committee and the Academy for Educational Development. The KURET Project aims to withdraw or prevent a total of 30,600 children from exploitive labor in HIV/AIDS-affected areas of these four countries through the provision of educational services.²³⁵⁶ Kenya also participates in the 5-year USDOL-funded Reducing Child Labor through Education (CIRCLE 1 and 2) global projects implemented by Winrock International through 2008; these projects work with community-based organizations to prevent or reduce exploitive child labor through the provision of education.²³⁵⁷

²³⁵¹ ILO-IPEC, *Prevention, Withdrawal and Rehabilitation of Children Engaged in Hazardous Work in Commercial Agriculture in Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Malawi, Zambia*, technical progress report, Geneva, August 29, 2002, 3.

²³⁵² U.S. Embassy- Nairobi official, E-mail communication, August 11, 2006. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Kenya," Section 6d.

²³⁵³ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Kenya," Section 5.

²³⁵⁴ ILO-IPEC, *Supporting the National Plan of Action for the Elimination of Child Labor*, project document, i, 42-44.

²³⁵⁵ ILO-IPEC, *Building the Foundations for Eliminating the Worst Forms of Child Labour in Anglophone Africa*, final technical progress report, May 31, 2006. See also ILO-IPEC, *Building the Foundations for Eliminating the Worst Forms of Child Labour in Anglophone Africa*, project document, Geneva, September 24, 2002.

²³⁵⁶ World Vision, *Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, and Ethiopia Together (KURET)*, project document, July 18, 2005.

²³⁵⁷ Winrock International, *Project Fact Sheet: Reducing Child Labor through Education (CIRCLE 1)*, [online] [cited October 13, 2006]; available from <http://www.winrock.org/fact/facts.asp?CC=5411&bu=>. See also Winrock International, *Project Fact Sheet: Reducing Child Labor through Education (CIRCLE 2)*, [online] [cited October 13, 2006]; available from <http://www.winrock.org/fact/facts.asp?CC=5411&bu=>. See also USDOL/ILAB, *Technical*

The government also collaborated with ILO-IPEC on the implementation of two other child labor and education projects, including a USD 1.527 million regional project to provide skills training to urban youth, funded by Canada, and a USD 449,408 project to combat child domestic work in Tanzania and Kenya, funded by Sweden.²³⁵⁸

In 2006, the ECPAT Code of Conduct was signed by 30 hotels on the Coast of Kenya, which is the destination of many foreign tourists visiting the country. The Ministry of Tourism and the Kenya Association of Hoteliers and Caterers have expressed their expectation that all hoteliers and other hospitality and tourism firms sign and implement the ECPAT Code of Conduct.²³⁵⁹

Also in 2006, the government launched a national campaign to end violence against children, including child labor, trafficking, and sexual abuse. The initiative is being spearheaded by the Children's Department, in collaboration with representatives of UNICEF, NGOs, religious groups, and the private sector, and aims to raise USD 1.4 million to protect children.²³⁶⁰ The government has provided shelter and medical services to street children who were involved in commercial sexual exploitation, and it established District Advisory Children's Centers throughout the country to provide counseling, educational services, medical care, and fostering to orphans and vulnerable children who are at risk of becoming victims of trafficking.²³⁶¹

In 2006, the government worked with the IOM to institutionalize its efforts to fight human trafficking, and the Ministry of Home Affairs was charged with leading the Anti-Trafficking Steering Committee and the Task Force for drafting a National Action Plan on Trafficking. The Child Protection Department of the Ministry of Home Affairs received funding to hire 160 new children's officers, most of whom will be posted to the field.²³⁶²

Cooperation Project Summary: Community-Based Innovations to Reduce Child Labor through Education I and II (CIRCLE I and II).

²³⁵⁸ ILO-IPEC official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, November 16, 2006.

²³⁵⁹ U.S. Embassy- Nairobi official, E-mail communication, August 11, 2006. See also ILO-IPEC, *Building the Foundations for Eliminating the Worst Forms of Child Labour in Anglophone Africa (CBP)- Kenya*, technical progress report, Geneva, February 28, 2006.

²³⁶⁰ Integrated Regional Information Networks, "Kenya: Campaign to Stop Violence Against Children", IRINnews.org, [online], July 27, 2006 [cited October 7, 2006]; available from <http://www.irinnews.org/print.asp?ReportID=54844>. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Kenya," Section 6d.

²³⁶¹ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Kenya." See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Kenya," Section 5.

²³⁶² U.S. Embassy- Nairobi, *reporting*, January 10, 2007.

Kiribati

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

The U.S. State Department reports that child prostitution is a problem in Kiribati. A study conducted in 2005

described the commercial sexual exploitation of young girls by crew members from foreign fishing vessels who give girls cash, food, or other goods in exchange for sexual services.²³⁶⁵

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:	115% ²³⁶³
Net primary enrollment rate in 1999:	97% ²³⁶⁴

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

No changes have been recorded regarding child labor laws and enforcement since the last reporting period in Kiribati.*

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

Research has not identified any policies or programs by the Government of Kiribati to address exploitive child labor.

* For more information, please refer to the U.S. Department of Labor's *2005 Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labor*.

²³⁶³ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

²³⁶⁴ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Rate. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

²³⁶⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Kiribati," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78776.htm>. See also U.S. Embassy- Suva, *reporting*, February 28, 2007.

The Kyrgyz Republic

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 1998, approximately 10.2 percent of boys and 8.1 percent of girls ages 7 to 14 were working in The Kyrgyz Republic.²³⁷⁶

Children work selling goods (such as newspapers, cigarettes, candy, alcohol, and gasoline), loading and unloading goods, collecting aluminum and bottles, begging, cleaning and repairing shoes, and washing cars. Some

children also work in transportation and construction. The UN estimates that 7,000 children are working in Bishkek.²³⁷⁷ A 2003 UNICEF-supported survey of 207 street and working

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 7-14 estimated as working in 1998:	9.2% ²³⁶⁶
Minimum age of work:	16 ²³⁶⁷
Age to which education is compulsory:	9 years or until age 14 ²³⁶⁸
Free public education:	Yes ²³⁶⁹
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2002:	101% ²³⁷⁰
Net primary enrollment rate in 2002:	89% ²³⁷¹
Percent of children 7-14 attending school in 1998:	91.6% ²³⁷²
Percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	Unavailable
Ratified Convention 138:	3/31/1992 ²³⁷³
Ratified Convention 182:	5/10/2004 ²³⁷⁴
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Yes, associated ²³⁷⁵

²³⁶⁶ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, October 7, 2005.

²³⁶⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Kyrgyz Republic," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, 2007, Section 6d; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78821.htm>. See also UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Consideration of Reports Submitted by States Parties Under Article 44 of the Convention*, CRC/C/104/Add.4, April 5 2004, para. 70. See also U.S. Embassy- Bishkek, *reporting*, December 18, 2006.

²³⁶⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Kyrgyz Republic," Section 5.

²³⁶⁹ Ibid.

²³⁷⁰ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross and Net Enrolment Ratios, Primary, Total*, accessed December 20, 2006.

²³⁷¹ Ibid.

²³⁷² UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

²³⁷³ ILO, *List of Ratifications of International Labor Conventions*, February 5, 2007; available from <http://webfusion.ilo.org/public/db/standards/normes/appl/appl-byConvYear.cfm?hdroff=1&Lang=EN&conv=C138>.

²³⁷⁴ ILO, *List of Ratifications of International Labor Conventions, Worst Forms of Child Labor Convention*, 1999, February 5, 2007; available from <http://webfusion.ilo.org/public/db/standards/normes/appl/appl-byConvYear.cfm?hdroff=1&Lang=EN&conv=C182>.

²³⁷⁵ ILO-IPEC, *IPEC Action Against Child Labour: Highlights 2006*, Geneva, October 2006; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ipcc/prod/eng/20061019_Implementationreport_eng_Web.pdf.

²³⁷⁶ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

²³⁷⁷ UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, *Kyrgyzstan: Child Labour Remains Rife*, June 26, 2006 [cited October 22, 2006]; available from <http://www.irinnews.org/report.asp?ReportID=54174&SelectRegion=Asia&SelectCountry=KYRGYZSTAN>.

children in Bishkek found that up to 90 percent of those children did not attend school at all.²³⁷⁸ In southern rural areas, reports indicate that children work in coal mines and in brick making.²³⁷⁹ There were also reports of children mining near uranium waste dumps.²³⁸⁰

Children are allegedly taken out of school to harvest cotton. Children also work on commercial tobacco farms.²³⁸¹ Some schools have reportedly required students to participate in the tobacco harvest in fields located on school grounds. Proceeds from the harvest are collected by the schools and do not go to the children.²³⁸² Children are also found working on family farms and in family enterprises such as selling products at roadside kiosks.²³⁸³ ILO reports indicate that a large number of children from rural areas are sent to urban areas to live with wealthier relatives and to work as domestic servants.²³⁸⁴

Children are vulnerable to commercial sexual exploitation in urban areas throughout the country. Children engaged in prostitution are primarily girls between 11 and 16.²³⁸⁵ It has been asserted that at least 20 percent of prostitutes in Bishkek were minors in 2000.²³⁸⁶ The Kyrgyz Republic is considered a country of origin and transit for trafficked children. There are reports of children being trafficked for sexual exploitation and forced labor.²³⁸⁷ The trafficking of Kyrgyz boys to Russia and Kazakhstan for the purpose of sexual exploitation occurs.²³⁸⁸ The internal trafficking of children for sexual exploitation and labor from rural areas to Bishkek and Osh has been reported.²³⁸⁹

²³⁷⁸ UNICEF's Executive Board, *Draft Country Programme Document: Kyrgyzstan*, E/ICEF/2004/P/L.14, United National Economic and Social Council, April 1, 2004, 3.

²³⁷⁹ ILO-IPEC and SIAR, *Child Labour in Kyrgyzstan: An initial study*, summary report, Bishkek, 2001, 14. See also U.S. Department of State, "Kyrgyz Republic," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2004*, Washington, DC, 2005, Section 6d; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2004/41690.htm>. See also UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *NGO Commentaries to the Initial Report of the Kyrgyz Republic on the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child*, 26; available from <http://www.crin.org/docs/resources/treaties/crc.24/kyrgystanNGOreport.doc>.

²³⁸⁰ UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, *Kyrgyzstan: Child Labour Remains Rife*.

²³⁸¹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Kyrgyz Republic," Section 6d.

²³⁸² *Ibid.* See also UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *NGO Commentaries*, 27.

²³⁸³ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Kyrgyz Republic," Section 6d.

²³⁸⁴ Youth Human Rights Group, *Alternative NGO Report to the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child in Relation to the Examination of the Second Periodic Report by the Kyrgyz Republic on the Implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child*, April 2004, 27; available from http://www.crin.org/docs/resources/treaties/crc.37/kyrgyzstan_ngo_report.pdf. See also ILO-IPEC and SIAR, *Child Labor in Kyrgyzstan*, 15-17.

²³⁸⁵ Institute for War and Peace Reporting (IWPR), *Lost Children of Central Asia*, January 19, 2004.

²³⁸⁶ UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *NGO Commentaries*, 27.

²³⁸⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Kyrgyz Republic," Section 5. See also Youth Human Rights Group, *Alternative NGO Report*, 16.

²³⁸⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Kyrgyz Republic (Tier 2)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/>.

²³⁸⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Kyrgyz Republic," Section 6d.

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law establishes the minimum age for basic employment as 16, except in limited circumstances.²³⁹⁰ Limited light work is permitted at age 14. The maximum work hours for children ages 14 and 15 are 5 per day and for children ages 16 and 17 are 7 per day. The employment of persons under 18 is banned in certain industries including oil and gas, mining and prospecting, food, entertainment, and machine building.²³⁹¹ Children studying in educational establishments are forbidden from participating in agricultural or other work not related to their schooling.²³⁹² The law penalizes parents who restrict their children's access to schooling, but it is not strictly enforced, especially in rural areas.²³⁹³ The penalty for preventing a child from attending school ranges from a public reprimand to 1 year of forced labor.²³⁹⁴

Both the Constitution and the law prohibit forced labor, including by children, under most circumstances.²³⁹⁵ The minimum age for recruitment to active military service is age 18; however, boys age 17 may volunteer for military schools.²³⁹⁶ Prostitution is not illegal, but the operation of brothels, pimping, and recruiting persons into prostitution is punishable by up to 5 years in jail.²³⁹⁷ A lack of legal regulation and oversight makes prostitution an ongoing problem.²³⁹⁸ The law prohibits trafficking in persons and imposes punishments of up to 20 years imprisonment.²³⁹⁹ The law grants immunity from prosecution to victims of trafficking who cooperate with authorities.²⁴⁰⁰

The General Procurator's Office and the State Labor Inspectorate are responsible for enforcing child labor laws, but, since many children work in the informal sector and small and medium-sized business that do not have employment contracts, it is difficult to determine their adherence to the law. The Federation of Trade Unions also has the right to carry out child labor inspections when it receives a complaint.²⁴⁰¹ The Office of the Ombudsman has a special department dealing with the rights of minors. It has the authority to order other agencies to deliver information or conduct investigations.²⁴⁰² The U.S. Department of State reports that

²³⁹⁰ Ibid. See also UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Consideration of Reports Submitted by States Parties: Kyrgyzstan*, para. 70.

²³⁹¹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Kyrgyz Republic," Section 6d.

²³⁹² UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Consideration of Reports Submitted by States Parties: Kyrgyzstan*, para. 340.

²³⁹³ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Kyrgyz Republic," Section 5.

²³⁹⁴ UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Consideration of Reports Submitted by States Parties: Kyrgyzstan*, para. 67.

²³⁹⁵ Government of Kyrgyzstan, *Constitution of the Kyrgyz Republic*, (February 17, 1996), Article 28. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Kyrgyz Republic," Section 6c.

²³⁹⁶ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Kyrgyzstan," in *Child Soldiers Global Report- 2004*; available from <http://www.child-soldiers.org/>.

²³⁹⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Kyrgyz Republic," Section 5. See also ECPAT International CSEC Database, *Kyrgyz Republic*, accessed July 5, 2006; available from <http://www.ecpat.net>.

²³⁹⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Kyrgyz Republic," Section 5.

²³⁹⁹ Ibid.

²⁴⁰⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Kyrgyz Republic."

²⁴⁰¹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Kyrgyz Republic," Section 6d.

²⁴⁰² UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Summary Record of the 987th Meeting: Kyrgyzstan*, September 29, 2004, paras. 38 and 47; available from <http://www.unhchr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/Documentsfrset?OpenFrameSet>.

child labor laws were not adequately enforced and that the Labor Inspectorate only conducts compliance checks at large industrial sites where child labor is less likely to occur.²⁴⁰³

The Interior Ministry has a special anti-trafficking police unit.²⁴⁰⁴ Prosecution is difficult in trafficking cases due to the reluctance of victims to file charges. Law enforcement is hampered by widespread corruption. Victims reported that local police, immigration officers, and airport security officials often cooperated with highly organized trafficking operations.²⁴⁰⁵ Efforts are being made to eliminate government corruption as it relates to trafficking. In February 2006, fines for government officials that violate visa rules for foreigners were increased.²⁴⁰⁶

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

In June 2006, the Kyrgyz Government adopted the code "On Children." It includes sections on children's rights, freedoms, and the elimination of the worst forms of child labor.²⁴⁰⁷

With assistance from the IOM, the government now issues new forgery-resistant passports intended to reduce incidents of human trafficking in the Kyrgyz Republic.²⁴⁰⁸ An IOM-sponsored program involves strengthening the capacity of local NGOs to assist and reintegrate victims of trafficking.²⁴⁰⁹ Office space has been provided by local governments for anti-trafficking NGOs.²⁴¹⁰ The government has distributed brochures and booklets for migrant workers about the threat of trafficking. Government-run media outlets broadcast programs about trafficking.²⁴¹¹

The Government of the Kyrgyz Republic is participating in a USD 2.5 million USDOL-funded ILO-IPEC sub-regional project that will enhance the capacity of national institutions to eliminate the worst forms of child labor in the Kyrgyz Republic and share information and experiences across Central Asia.²⁴¹²

²⁴⁰³ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Kyrgyz Republic," Section 6d.

²⁴⁰⁴ *Ibid.*, Section 5.

²⁴⁰⁵ *Ibid.* See also U.S. Embassy- Bishkek, Email Communication to USDOL official, July 24, 2007.

²⁴⁰⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Kyrgyz Republic."

²⁴⁰⁷ ILO-IPEC, *CAR Capacity Building Project: Regional Program on the Worst Forms of Child Labour*, technical progress report, Geneva, August 31, 2006, 3.

²⁴⁰⁸ UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, "Kyrgyzstan: New Passport to Help Reduce Human Trafficking," August 4, 2004; available from http://www.irinnews.org/report.asp?ReportID=42509&SelectRegion=Central_Asia&SelectCountry=KYRGYZSTAN.

²⁴⁰⁹ IOM, *Development of NGOs Capacity to Provide Assistance to Victims of Trafficking in the Kyrgyz Republic (NCPA)*, [online] [cited June 15, 2005].

²⁴¹⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Kyrgyz Republic."

²⁴¹¹ *Ibid.*

²⁴¹² ILO-IPEC, *CAR Capacity Building Project: Regional Program on the Worst Forms of Child Labour*, project document, RER/04/P54/USA, Geneva, September 2004.

Lebanon

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Working children are more prevalent in poor rural areas and are more likely to come from large families.²⁴²³ The proportion of working children 10 to 14 years has been found to be highest in North Lebanon.²⁴²⁴ Children work under hazardous conditions in several sectors, including metal works, construction, automobile

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working:	Unavailable
Minimum age for admission to work:	14 ²⁴¹³
Age to which education is compulsory:	12 ²⁴¹⁴
Free public education:	Yes ^{2415*}
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2002:	103% ²⁴¹⁶
Net primary enrollment rate in 2002:	91% ²⁴¹⁷
Percent of children 5-14 attending school:	Unavailable
As of 2001, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	92% ²⁴¹⁸
Ratified Convention 138:	6/10/2003 ²⁴¹⁹
Ratified Convention 182:	9/11/2001 ²⁴²⁰
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Yes ²⁴²¹
* In practice, must pay registration and other fees. ²⁴²²	

²⁴¹³ Government of Lebanon, *Code du travail- Travail des enfants*, Loi no 536, (July 24, 1996); available from <http://www.lebaneselaws.com/>.

²⁴¹⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Lebanon," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006>.

²⁴¹⁵ U. S. Department of State, "Lebanon," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006>.

²⁴¹⁶ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

²⁴¹⁷ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

²⁴¹⁸ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Survival Rate to Grade 5*, accessed December 18, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

²⁴¹⁹ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, accessed October 19, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/newratframeE.htm>.

²⁴²⁰ Ibid.

²⁴²¹ ILO, *IPEC Action Against Child Labour: Highlights 2006*, Geneva, February 2007; available from <http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/public/english/standards/ipec/doc-view.cfm?id=3159>, ILO, *Member State of ILO*, [cited January 22, 2007]; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/mstatede.htm>.

²⁴²² UNDP- Lebanon, *Millennium Development Goals: Lebanon Report*, prepared by Council for Development and Reconstruction, September 2003, 10,11; available from <http://www.un.org.lb/un/awms/uploadedFiles/MDGR%20English.pdf>.

²⁴²³ ILO-IPEC, *Lebanon: Child Labour on Tobacco Plantations: A Rapid Assessment*, Geneva, May 2002, 38; available from <http://www.ilo.org/public/english/standards/ipec/simpoc/lebanon/ra/tobacco.pdf>. See also Partners for Development- Civil Group, *Gender, Education and Child Labour in Lebanon*, ILO, Geneva, 2004, 38; available from http://www.ilo.org/public/english/standards/ipec/publ/download/gender_edu_lebanon_2004_en.pdf.

²⁴²⁴ Partners for Development- Civil Group, *Gender, Education and Child Labour in Lebanon*, 6.

repair, equipment installation and maintenance, painting, street work, and seasonal agriculture.²⁴²⁵ In 2000, a government assessment estimated that 25,000 children 7 to 14 were working in tobacco cultivation; the majority of whom worked on family enterprises and were unpaid.²⁴²⁶ Refugee children are often forced to leave school at an early age to go to work.²⁴²⁷ Non-Lebanese children, particularly boys from Palestine and Syria, constitute approximately 10 percent of children 10 to 14 years who work in the formal sector,²⁴²⁸ but they account for approximately 85 percent of children working on the street.²⁴²⁹ The most common types of street work are selling goods, shoe polishing, and washing car windshields.²⁴³⁰

Child prostitution, including situations in which girls have been forced into prostitution by their own families, has been reported.²⁴³¹ Forty-seven percent of working street children who participated in a 2004 study conducted by the Ministry of Labor (MOL) were forced by adults to work long hours on the streets.²⁴³² While children are not known to participate in armed militia attacks, they continue to be involved in militia training and rallies by groups such as Hizbollah and they are known to be involved with various armed groups operating in the country.²⁴³³

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum age for employment at 14 years.²⁴³⁴ Youth may not work more than 6 hours per day, must have a 13-hour period of rest between workdays, and may not work between 7:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. In addition, youth 14 to 18 must pass a medical examination to ensure that they can undertake the work in which they are to be engaged, and the

²⁴²⁵ ILO-IPEC, *Child Labour on Tobacco Plantations: A Rapid Assessment*, 9. See also ILO-IPEC, *Supporting the National Policy and Programme Framework for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour in Lebanon and Yemen: Consolidating Action Against the Worst Forms of Child Labour*, project document, Geneva, September 3, 2004, 9, 10.

²⁴²⁶ The survey was conducted by the Consultation and Research Institute in Lebanon with the support of the ILO between July and September 2000. See ILO-IPEC, *Child Labour on Tobacco Plantations: A Rapid Assessment*, viii, 7-8.

²⁴²⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Lebanon," Section 5. See also Lebanese NGO Forum, *The Migration Network: The Refugees*, October 18, 2006; available from <http://www.lnf.org.lb/migrationnetwork/ngo2.html>.

²⁴²⁸ Partners for Development, *Gender, Education & Child Labor in Lebanon: A Concept Paper*, Draft 4, submitted to ILO, Beirut, November 28, 2003, 7.

²⁴²⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Lebanon," Section 6d.

²⁴³⁰ U. S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Lebanon." See also U.S. Embassy- Beirut, *reporting*, August 31, 2005.

²⁴³¹ United Nations High Commission for Human Rights, *Expert on Trafficking in Persons Ends Visit to Lebanon*, press release, Geneva, September 15, 2005; available from <http://www.unhchr.ch/hurricane/hurricane.nsf/0/5F43BE66EDB9D815C125707E00240837?opendocument>. See also ECPAT International CSEC Database, *Lebanon*, accessed October 19, 2006; available from <http://www.ecpat.net>.

²⁴³² U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Lebanon," Section 6d.

²⁴³³ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Lebanon," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, London, 2004; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=958. See also Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, *The Use of Child Soldiers in the Middle East and North Africa Region*, prepared by Ibrahim Al-Marashi, pursuant to the Amman Conference on the Use of Children as Soldiers, April 8-10, 2001, 21-23; available from http://www.id.gov.jo/human/activities2000/middleeast_report.html.

²⁴³⁴ *Code du travail*, Article 22.

prospective employer must request the child's identity card to verify his or her age.²⁴³⁵ Penalties for non-compliance with provisions of the Labor Code, including the prohibitions relating to child labor, include fines and up to 1 to 3 months of imprisonment.²⁴³⁶ Vocational training establishments may be permitted to employ children who have reached 13 years by receiving approval from both the Ministry of Labor and the Public Health Services.²⁴³⁷

Youth under 17 are prohibited from working in dangerous environments that threaten their life, health, or morals.²⁴³⁸ Industrial work²⁴³⁹ and work, such as, mining and quarrying, manufacturing or selling alcohol; work with chemicals or explosives; demolition work; work in tanneries or with machinery; street vending; begging; domestic service; and pornography, is not permitted for children under 16.²⁴⁴⁰ There are no laws specifically prohibiting trafficking or forced labor; however, other laws are used to address such offenses. The Penal Code prohibits deprivation of personal freedom.²⁴⁴¹ The minimum age for voluntary recruitment into the armed forces is 18 years.²⁴⁴² Prostitution is prohibited. Persons who threaten, intimidates or forces a child into prostitution may be sentenced to 3 to 15 years' imprisonment.²⁴⁴³

The MOL is responsible for the enforcement of child labor laws, but, according to the U.S. Department of State, the Ministry does not apply these laws rigorously.²⁴⁴⁴ In 2005, the most recent date for which information is available, the MOL had a Labor Inspection Team composed of 97 labor inspectors nationwide, but the Child Labor Unit lacked adequate personnel and resources, which limited its ability to investigate conditions in small or informal establishments.²⁴⁴⁵ In 2006, the Ministry of Justice, the agency responsible for migrant workers, trained 32 officers in effective strategies for combating trafficking during a 2-week course that was held in conjunction with the IOM.²⁴⁴⁶

²⁴³⁵ *Loi no. 91, Modifiant les dispositions des articles 23 et 25 du Code du travail*, (June 14, 1999), Articles 21-24; available from <http://natlex.ilo.org/scripts/natlexcgi.exe?lang=E>.

²⁴³⁶ ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations (CEACR), *Individual Direct Request concerning Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182): Lebanon (ratification: 2001)*, Geneva, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/cgi-lex/countrylist.pl?country=Lebanon>.

²⁴³⁷ *Modifiant les dispositions des articles 23 et 25 du Code du travail*, Loi no 91, (July 24, 1996); available from <http://www.lebaneselaws.com>.

²⁴³⁸ *Code du travail*, Article 23.

²⁴³⁹ *Ibid.*

²⁴⁴⁰ Government of Lebanon, *Decree No. 700, Prohibiting Employment of Young Persons under the Age of 16 or 17 in Occupations That Are Hazardous by Nature or Which Endanger Life, Health or Morals*, (June 3, 1999); available from <http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/docs/SERIAL/71934/72963/F1415871086/LBN71934.pdf>. See also ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations (CEACR), "Report of the Committee of Experts on the Worst Forms of Child Labor Convention, 1999 (No. 182): Lebanon (ratification: 2001)" (paper presented at the 75th Session, Geneva, 2004); available from <http://webfusion.ilo.org/public/db/standards/normes/appl/>.

²⁴⁴¹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Lebanon," Sections 5, 6c.

²⁴⁴² Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Global Report 2004."

²⁴⁴³ EPCAT International CSEC Database, *Lebanon*, accessed June 7, 2007; available from <http://www.epcat.net>.

²⁴⁴⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Lebanon," Section 6d. See also U.S. Embassy- Beirut, *reporting*, August 11, 2003. See also Ministry of Labour, *Unit for Combat of Child Labour in Lebanon*, [online] [cited October 19, 2006]; available from <http://www.clu.gov.lb>.

²⁴⁴⁵ U.S. Embassy- Beirut, *reporting*, August 31, 2005.

²⁴⁴⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Lebanon," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006 (Tier 2 Watch List); available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/65989.htm>.

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

A National Policy and Program Framework (NPPF) to eliminate child labor in Lebanon has been developed by the Child Labor Unit of the MOL in collaboration with the National Steering Committee on Child Labor. The NPPF outlines effective strategies to eliminate child labor in priority sectors within an established timeframe, using common measures of progress and a plan for coordination among all actors.²⁴⁴⁷ The MOL is implementing the NPPF strategy to combat child labor in cooperation with ILO-IPEC and the National Council for Children.²⁴⁴⁸ The government is continuing efforts to counter trafficking in persons, including signing a Protocol of Understanding with the Sri Lankan Ministry of Labor to create centers to educate domestic workers destined for Lebanon on workers' rights and protections under Lebanese law.²⁴⁴⁹

The Government of Lebanon is participating in a USDOL-funded USD 3 million regional project implemented by ILO-IPEC that aims to promote the collection and analysis of child labor information; strengthen enforcement and monitoring mechanisms; build capacity; raise awareness on the negative consequences of child labor; and withdraw 3,400 children and prevent 3,500 from engaging in the worst forms of child labor.²⁴⁵⁰ The government is also participating in a USD 8 million sub-regional project funded by USDOL and implemented by CHF International to combat child labor through education in Lebanon and Yemen. The project aims to withdraw 4,305 children and prevent 3,195 children from entering exploitive labor.²⁴⁵¹

²⁴⁴⁷ ILO-IPEC, *Consolidating Action against the Worst Forms of Child Labour*, project document, 8.

²⁴⁴⁸ U.S. Embassy- Beirut, *reporting*, August 31, 2005.

²⁴⁴⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Lebanon."

²⁴⁵⁰ ILO-IPEC, *Consolidating Action against the Worst Forms of Child Labour*, project document, 28, 35-38, 49.

²⁴⁵¹ CHF International, *Alternatives to Combat Child Labor through Education and Sustainable Services in the Middle East and North Africa (ACCESS-MENA)* project document, Silver Spring, MD, January, 2007, cover page, 12.

Lesotho

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Available information on the occupations in which children work is anecdotal, but suggests that jobs performed by children tend to be gender specific. Boys as young as 4 are employed as livestock herders in the highlands, either for their family or through an arrangement where they are hired out by their parents. Boys also work as load bearers, car washers, and taxi fare collectors. Girls are employed as domestic servants.²⁴⁶³ Some teenage children, primarily girls, are involved in prostitution. UNICEF and the Government of Lesotho (GOL) believe that the number of individuals under the age of 18 who are involved in prostitution is small, but increasing.²⁴⁶⁴

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children ages 5-14 estimated as working in 2000:	28.1% ²⁴⁵²
Minimum age for admission to work:	13/15 ²⁴⁵³
Age to which education is compulsory:	Not compulsory ²⁴⁵⁴
Free public education:	Yes ^{2455*}
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:	131% ²⁴⁵⁶
Net primary enrollment rate:	86% ²⁴⁵⁷
Percent of children 5-14 attending school:	80.7% ²⁴⁵⁸
As of 2003, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	63% ²⁴⁵⁹
Ratified Convention 138:	6/14/2001 ²⁴⁶⁰
Ratified Convention 182:	6/14/2001 ²⁴⁶¹
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Yes ²⁴⁶²
*Must pay for school supplies and related items.	

²⁴⁵² UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, October 7, 2005.

²⁴⁵³ *Labour Code Order*, 24, (1992); available from <http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/docs/WEBTEXT/31536/64865/E92LSO01.htm>.

²⁴⁵⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Lesotho," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006* Washington, D.C., March 6, 2007, Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78741.htm>.

²⁴⁵⁵ Ibid.

²⁴⁵⁶ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratios. Primary. Total* accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

²⁴⁵⁷ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Ratios. Primary. Total* accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

²⁴⁵⁸ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

²⁴⁵⁹ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Survival Rate to Grade 5. Total* accessed December 18, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

²⁴⁶⁰ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, [database online] [cited September 25, 2006]; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/docs/declAFpr.htm>.

²⁴⁶¹ Ibid.

²⁴⁶² ILO-IPEC, *IPEC action against child labour-highlights 2006*, Geneva, October 2006; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ipcc/prod/eng/20061019_Implementationreport_eng_Web.pdf.

²⁴⁶³ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Lesotho," Section 6d.

²⁴⁶⁴ Ibid., Section 5

Anecdotal evidence indicates that children are trafficked within Lesotho for forced labor and sexual exploitation. Boys may be trafficked, sometimes with the permission of their families, for cattle herding, domestic service, or commercial sexual exploitation. Girls may be trafficked internally for domestic labor and commercial sexual exploitation.²⁴⁶⁵ According to a 2003 report from the International Organization for Migration, Lesotho children are trafficked into South Africa, Zimbabwe, and Zambia for sexual exploitation.²⁴⁶⁶

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum age for employment at 15 years, although children between 13 and 15 may perform light work in a home-based environment, technical school, or other institution approved by the government. Also exempt from the minimum age is work performed by a child of any age in a private undertaking of their own family, so long as there are no more than 5 other employees, and each is a member of the child's family.²⁴⁶⁷ Although there is no specific listing of work that is likely to jeopardize the health, safety or morals of children,²⁴⁶⁸ the law in general prohibits employment of children in work that is harmful to their health or development. It sets restrictions on night work by children, and also restricts work by children in mines and quarries. Persons under the age of 16 may not work for more than 4 consecutive hours without a break of at least one hour, and may not work more than 8 hours in any one day. Each employer in an industrial undertaking is required to keep a register of all its employees, including those under the age of 18.²⁴⁶⁹ The law identifies the "protection of children and young persons" as a principle of state policy.²⁴⁷⁰

The law identifies freedom from forced labor and slavery as a fundamental right available to all people.²⁴⁷¹ The law further defines forced labor and makes it illegal.²⁴⁷² The law states that there is no compulsory military service, and the minimum age for voluntary enrollment is 18.²⁴⁷³ Although there are no specific laws that prohibit trafficking in persons,²⁴⁷⁴ it is illegal to

²⁴⁶⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Lesotho (Special Cases)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, D.C., June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/65990.htm>.

²⁴⁶⁶ International Organization for Migration, *The Trafficking of Women and Children in the Southern African Region*, Pretoria, March 24, 2003, Page 12; available from <http://www.iom.int/documents/publication/en/southernafrica%5Ftrafficking.pdf>.

²⁴⁶⁷ Government of Lesotho, *Labour Code Order*, 24, (1992), Sections 3, 124; available from <http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/docs/WEBTEXT/31536/64865/E92LSO01.htm>. See also U.S. Embassy-Maseru, *reporting*, September 2, 2003, Para 3.

²⁴⁶⁸ CEACR, *Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138); Lesotho (ratification: 2001); Direct request, CEACR 2004/75th Session*, [online] [cited January 22, 2007], Article 3 (2); available from <http://webfusion.ilo.org/public/db/standards/normes/appl/appl-displayAllComments.cfm?conv=C138&ctry=1800&hdroff=1&lang=EN>.

²⁴⁶⁹ Government of Lesotho, *Labour Code Order*, Sections 125-128.

²⁴⁷⁰ Government of Lesotho, *The Constitution of Lesotho*, (1993), Section 32; available from <http://www.parliament.ls/documents/constitution.php#NOTE>.

²⁴⁷¹ *Ibid.*, Chapter 2, Section 9

²⁴⁷² Government of Lesotho, *Labour Code Order*, Sections 3 and 7.

²⁴⁷³ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, *Child Soldiers Global Report* [online] 2004 [cited October 19, 2006]; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=780.

²⁴⁷⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Lesotho," Section 5.

procure or attempt to procure a women or girl to become a prostitute within Lesotho, or to leave Lesotho so that she may be a prostitute elsewhere.²⁴⁷⁵

The law sets a penalty of up to 3 months in prison for an industrial employer who employs an underage child or for an employer who fails to keep a register of all employees who are children and young persons (under age 18). The law also dictates imprisonment of up to 6 months for persons who employ a child or young person in violation of restrictions related to dangerous work, required rest periods, parental rights to refuse work for their children, and children's rights to return each night to the home of their parents or guardians. The use of forced labor—adult or child—may result in up to 1 year in prison.²⁴⁷⁶ The procurement of a girl for prostitution is punishable by a maximum penalty of up to 6 years in prison.²⁴⁷⁷

The law provides broad powers for the Labor Commissioner and subordinates to perform workplace inspections.²⁴⁷⁸ The Ministry of Employment and Labor has 24 trained inspectors who are responsible for uncovering all violations of the Labor Code, not only those related to child labor. Each quarter a random sample of employers is inspected.²⁴⁷⁹ The Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations (CEACR) has noted that little information is forthcoming from the GOL on the effectiveness of its enforcement efforts, and that general concerns have been raised by others to suggest that the provisions of the law related to children may not be adequately enforced. Little information exists on the enforcement of laws related to the unconditional worst forms of child labor. The CEACR has asked the Government “to provide information on the practical application of the penalties laid down in the relevant provisions.”²⁴⁸⁰

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Government of Lesotho finalized a discussion document on child labor and initiated talks to draft a national child labor action plan.²⁴⁸¹ The government is also working with ILO-IPEC to implement a USDOL-funded, USD 5 million regional child labor project in Southern Africa. Activities in Lesotho include research on the nature and incidence of exploitive child labor and

²⁴⁷⁵ CEACR, *Worst forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182); Lesotho (ratification: 2001); Direct request, CEACR 2004/75th Session*, [online] [cited January 22, 2007], Article 3(para 3); available from <http://webfusion.ilo.org/public/db/standards/normes/appl/index.cfm?lang=EN>.

²⁴⁷⁶ Government of Lesotho, *Labour Code Order*, Sections 3, 7, 124-129. See also CEACR, *Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138); Lesotho (ratification: 2001); Direct request, CEACR 2004/75th Session*.

²⁴⁷⁷ CEACR, *Worst forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182); Lesotho (ratification: 2001); Direct request, CEACR 2004/75th Session*, Article 7 (para 1).

²⁴⁷⁸ *Ibid.*, Article 5.

²⁴⁷⁹ U.S. Embassy- Maseru, *reporting, September 2, 2003*, para 7.

²⁴⁸⁰ CEACR, *Worst forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182); Lesotho (ratification: 2001); Direct request, CEACR 2004/75th Session*, Articles 5 and 6.

²⁴⁸¹ ILO-IPEC, *Supporting the Time-Bound Programme to eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour in South Africa's Child Labour Action Programme and laying the basis for concerted action against Worst Forms of Child Labour in Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia and Swaziland, Technical Progress Report, September 2006*, Page 4.

efforts to build the capacity of the government to address child labor issues.²⁴⁸² The American Institutes for Research, with the support of the Government of Lesotho, is implementing another regional, USDOL-funded project. This USD 9 million project intends to prevent 10,000 children from engaging in exploitive labor in five countries, including Lesotho, by improving quality of and access to basic education.²⁴⁸³

²⁴⁸² ILO-IPEC, *Supporting the Timebound Programme to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour in South Africa's Child Labour Action Programme and Laying the Basis for Concerted Action Against Worst Forms of Child Labour in Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia and Swaziland*, project document, Geneva, September 30, 2003, 38-39.

²⁴⁸³ *Notice of Award: Cooperative Agreement*

U.S. Department of Labor / American Institutes for Research, Washington, DC, August 16, 2004, 1-2. See also American Institutes for Research, *Reducing Exploitive Child Labor Southern Africa (RECLISA)*, project document, Washington September 8, 2005, Page 21.

Liberia

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In rural areas, Liberian children work on family subsistence farms²⁴⁹² and rubber plantations.²⁴⁹³ In urban areas, children work as market vendors or street hawkers.²⁴⁹⁴ Children are also engaged in mining,²⁴⁹⁵ rock crushing,²⁴⁹⁶ fishing,²⁴⁹⁷ and transporting loads of sand.²⁴⁹⁸ Many children are employed in domestic service²⁴⁹⁹ and some are

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 2000:	Unavailable
Minimum age for admission to work:	16 ²⁴⁸⁴
Age to which education is compulsory:	16 ²⁴⁸⁵
Free public education:	Yes ^{2486*}
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2000:	99% ²⁴⁸⁷
Net primary enrollment rate in 2000:	66% ²⁴⁸⁸
Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 2000:	Unavailable
Percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	Unavailable
Ratified Convention 138:	No ²⁴⁸⁹
Ratified Convention 182:	6/2/2003 ²⁴⁹⁰
ILO-IPEC participating country:	No ²⁴⁹¹
*Must pay for school supplies and related items.	

²⁴⁸⁴ Government of Liberia, *Labour Practices Law (Title 18 and 18A)*, (1956), Section 74. See also U.S. Department of State, "Liberia," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006* Washington, D.C., March 6, 2007, Section 6d; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78742.htm>.

²⁴⁸⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Liberia," Section 5. See also UNESCO, *Liberia - Education system*, 2003; available from http://www.unesco.org/iau/onlinedatabases/systems_data/lr.rtf.

²⁴⁸⁶ U.S. Embassy- Monrovia, *reporting*, December 15, 2006, para 1. See also Women's Commission for refugee women and children, *Help us Help Ourselves: Education in the Conflict to Post-Conflict Transition in Liberia*, New York, March 2006, 7; available from http://www.womenscommission.org/pdf/lr_ed.pdf.

²⁴⁸⁷ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total* accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

²⁴⁸⁸ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total* accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

²⁴⁸⁹ ILO, *Ratifications by Country; accessed September 25, 2006*; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/docs/declAFpr.htm>.

²⁴⁹⁰ Ibid.

²⁴⁹¹ ILO-IPEC, *IPEC action against child labour-highlights 2006*, Geneva, October, 2006; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ipcc/prod/eng/20061019_Implementationreport_eng_Web.pdf.

²⁴⁹² U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Liberia," Section 6d.

²⁴⁹³ U.S. Embassy- Monrovia, *reporting, December 15, 2006*, para 2(e). See also Integrated Regional Information Networks, "Liberia: Rubber plantation workers strike over conditions, pay, child labour", IRINnews.org, [online], October 20, 2006; available from <http://www.irinnews.org/print.asp?ReportID=51654>.

²⁴⁹⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Liberia," Section 6d.

²⁴⁹⁵ Bureau of Immigration and Naturalization for Administration official, Interview with USDOL consultant, June 26, 2006.

²⁴⁹⁶ Touching Humanity in Need of Kindness official, Interview with USDOL consultant, June 26, 2006.

²⁴⁹⁷ International Rescue Committee official, Interview with USDOL consultant, June 26, 2006.

²⁴⁹⁸ National Child Rights Observatory Group official, Interview with USDOL consultant, June 26, 2006.

²⁴⁹⁹ Ministry of Labor official, Interview with USDOL consultant, June 26, 2006. See also U.S. Embassy- Monrovia, *reporting, December 15, 2006*, para 2(e).

forced by adults to engage in begging and theft.²⁵⁰⁰

Child prostitution is an ongoing problem.²⁵⁰¹ There are some reports that girls are involved in prostitution to pay school fees and support their families.²⁵⁰² Liberia is a country of origin, and may be a transit or destination country for regionally trafficked children. Of the few recorded instances of trafficking, all but one occurred within Liberia's borders.²⁵⁰³ Trafficked children are typically subjected to forced labor in the form of domestic service, agricultural labor, and street vending.²⁵⁰⁴

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law prohibits the employment of children under 16 during school hours.²⁵⁰⁵ Children under 16, however, may work for wages if the employer can demonstrate that they are attending school regularly and have a basic education.²⁵⁰⁶ The law states however that labor recruiters may hire children between 16 and 18 for occupations approved by the Ministry of Labor.²⁵⁰⁷

The law prohibits forced and bonded labor and slavery in Liberia.²⁵⁰⁸ The law criminalizes human trafficking and establishes sentences for traffickers ranging from 1 year to life in prison.²⁵⁰⁹ Liberian law also prohibits any person under 16 from enlisting in the armed forces.²⁵¹⁰

The Ministry of Labor and the Ministry of Justice have a mandate to monitor compliance with Liberia's labor laws, including child labor.²⁵¹¹ According to the U.S. Department of State, the government lacks the resources to enforce existing labor laws.²⁵¹²

²⁵⁰⁰ International Rescue Committee, *Countering Youth and Child Labour Through Education (CYCLE)*, draft project document, New York, May 2006, 10.

²⁵⁰¹ Ibid.

²⁵⁰² U.S. Embassy- Monrovia, *reporting, December 15, 2006*, para 2(e).

²⁵⁰³ U.S. Embassy- Monrovia, E-mail communication to USDOL official, August 1, 2007.

²⁵⁰⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Liberia (Special Case)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, D.C., June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/65991.htm>.

²⁵⁰⁵ Government of Liberia, *Labour Practices Law (Title 18 and 18A)*, Section 74.

²⁵⁰⁶ Ibid. See also International Rescue Committee, *Child Labor and Education in Liberia: Needs Assessment in Targeted Communities*, New York, June, 2006, 30.

²⁵⁰⁷ Government of Liberia, *Labour Practices Law (Title 18 and 18A)*, Section 1506, para 11.

²⁵⁰⁸ Government of Liberia, *Constitution of the Republic of Liberia, (1847)*, Article 12; available from <http://www.embassyofliberia.org/theconstitution.pdf>. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Liberia," Section 6c.

²⁵⁰⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Liberia," Section 5.

²⁵¹⁰ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, London, March 2004; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=966.

²⁵¹¹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Liberia," section 6d. See also Jerolinmek M. Piah, Interview, June 26, 2006.

²⁵¹² U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Liberia," Sections 5, 6d, and 6e.

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

In partnership with the Government of Liberia and with funding from USDOL, the International Rescue Committee is implementing a USD 6 million Child Labor Education Initiative project in Sierra Leone and Liberia. The project aims to withdraw a total of 8,243 children and prevent a total of 21,647 children from exploitive child labor by improving access to and quality of education.²⁵¹³

²⁵¹³ International Rescue Committee, *Countering Youth and Child Labour Through Education (CYCLE)*, 29.

Macedonia

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Children work on the streets in Macedonia, begging for money, food and clothing; performing minor services, such as washing car windows; and selling cigarettes and other small items.²⁵²⁰

Children also work in the informal sector on family farms (though usually not during school hours).²⁵²¹

Children sometimes sell small items in bars or restaurants at night.²⁵²²

Street children are predominantly of the minority Roma ethnic group, but also include ethnic Albanians, Turks and Macedonians.²⁵²³ Romani children are forced by Romani adults to beg for money as a part of an organized group at busy intersections, street corners, and in restaurants.²⁵²⁴

During the reporting period, there was an apparent downward trend in trafficking activities in Macedonia. The Ministry of Interior registered seven cases and the Ministry of Labor reported

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working:	Unavailable
Minimum age of work:	15 ²⁵¹⁴
Age to which education is compulsory:	Eighth grade or age 16 ²⁵¹⁵
Free public education:	Yes ^{2516*}
Gross primary enrollment rate:	Unavailable
Net primary enrollment rate:	Unavailable
Percent of children 5-14 attending school:	Unavailable
Percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	Unavailable
Ratified Convention 138:	11/17/1991 ²⁵¹⁷
Ratified Convention 182:	5/30/2002 ²⁵¹⁸
ILO-IPEC participating country:	No ²⁵¹⁹
*Must pay for books and other related supplies.	

²⁵¹⁴ Government of Macedonia, *Constitution of Macedonia, 1991*, (November 17, 1991), Article 42; available from http://www.oefre.unibe.ch/law/icl/mk00000_.html.

²⁵¹⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Macedonia," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006>.

²⁵¹⁶ Government of Macedonia, *Constitution of Macedonia, 1991*, Article 44. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Macedonia," Section 5.

²⁵¹⁷ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, accessed June 28, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/newratframeE.htm>.

²⁵¹⁸ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, [database online] [cited June 28, 2006]; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/newratframeE.htm>.

²⁵¹⁹ ILO, *IPEC Action Against Child Labour: Highlights 2006*, Geneva, February 2007; available from <http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/public/english/standards/ipecc/doc-view.cfm?id=3159>.

²⁵²⁰ Divna Lakinska, *Assessment of Policies, Situation and Programmes for Children on the Streets in Macedonia*, prepared by UNICEF, June 2005, 4, 38, 103. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Macedonia," Section 6d.

²⁵²¹ U.S. Embassy- Skopje, *reporting*, August 26, 2005.

²⁵²² U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Macedonia," Section 6d.

²⁵²³ Lakinska, *Assessment of Policies, Situation and Programmes for Children on the Streets in Macedonia*, 44, 45, 107. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Macedonia," Section 5.

²⁵²⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Macedonia," Section 5.

23 internally trafficked “potential victims,” 16 of whom were minors. However, it is unknown what percentage of overall trafficking victims are registered by the Ministry of Interior and the Ministry of Labor. Although Macedonia is not considered to have a significant incidence of sex tourism involving children, a local NGO reported 39 instances when children were used as juvenile prostitutes. Girls and young women from families with social and economic problems, as well as Roma women and children, were among the groups in Macedonia considered to be at the highest risk of becoming victims of trafficking.²⁵²⁵

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum age for employment at 15.²⁵²⁶ The employment of minors in work that is “detrimental to their health or morality” is prohibited.²⁵²⁷ Minors are further prohibited from working overtime, working at night between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m., or performing work that involves “strenuous physical labor, underground or underwater work or other jobs, which may be harmful or threatening to their health and life.”²⁵²⁸ However, the law allows children to work in film or advertisements with parental consent and after a Ministry inspection of the workplace or children under 14 years to work as an apprentice or in vocational education programs if the work is part of an official education program.²⁵²⁹ Employers who illegally employ minors face a potential fine.²⁵³⁰

The procurement or trade of minors for exploitation is punishable by a mandatory, minimum sentence of 8 years of imprisonment.²⁵³¹ Penalties for traffickers engaging in sexual exploitation and/or labor exploitation range from a minimum of 4 to a maximum of 15 years imprisonment. Penalties for mediators/organizers of prostitution range from a minimum of a monetary fine to a maximum of 10 years imprisonment. The law provides also for a minimum prison sentence of 8 years for persons who engage in the trafficking of minors or who knowingly engage in sexual relations with a trafficked child.²⁵³² In cases when trafficking cannot be proven due to a lack of evidence, Macedonian law provides for prosecution of perpetrators for mediation in prostitution, an offense that is easier to prove than trafficking.²⁵³³

Forced labor is prohibited by the Constitution.²⁵³⁴ Individuals under 18 are prohibited from serving in the armed forces.²⁵³⁵

²⁵²⁵ U.S. Embassy – Skopje, *reporting, February 15, 2007 and April 25, 2007.*

²⁵²⁶ Government of Macedonia, *Constitution of Macedonia, 1991.*

²⁵²⁷ *Ibid.*

²⁵²⁸ Government of Macedonia, *Labor Relations Act: Macedonia*, (December 27, 1993), Sections 7, 63, 66, and 67; available from <http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/docs/WEBTEXT/47727/65084/E93MKD02.htm>.

²⁵²⁹ U.S. Embassy- Skopje, *reporting, August 26, 2005.*

²⁵³⁰ *Ibid.*

²⁵³¹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Macedonia," Section 6d.

²⁵³² U.S. Embassy- Skopje, E-mail communication to USDOL official, August 03, 2007.

²⁵³³ *Ibid.*

²⁵³⁴ Government of Macedonia, *Constitution of Macedonia, 1991*, Article 11. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Macedonia," Section 6c.

²⁵³⁵ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Macedonia," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, London, 2004; available from <http://www.child-soldiers.org/regions/country.html?id=126>.

Enforcement of laws regulating the employment of children is the responsibility of the Ministry of Labor and Social Policy.²⁵³⁶ According to the U.S. Department of State, although a legal framework is in place, there has been little practical implementation of child labor laws and policies.²⁵³⁷ The State Labor Inspectorate has not discovered cases of minors working in factories or other businesses in Macedonia.²⁵³⁸ The Government's Ombudsman's Office investigates violations of citizens' legal rights and has a special unit to investigate violations of children's rights,²⁵³⁹ but had not received a child labor related case as of February 2007.²⁵⁴⁰

The Government of Macedonia increased the number of trafficking cases prosecuted in 2006, the most recent year for which this information is available, to 48 cases from 35 cases in 2005. Over 50 traffickers, i.e. half of all suspects, were convicted in 2006, with sentences between 8 months and 13 years' imprisonment, including victim restitution and confiscation of property. Two police officers were found guilty of trafficking-related crimes and received sentences of 18 months and two years, respectively. A Special Prosecutor's Office in the Office of Organized Crime in the Ministry of Justice was created in 2005 to improve trafficking enforcement.²⁵⁴¹

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

A National Plan of Action and Strategy to combat trafficking was adopted in March 2006.²⁵⁴² In cooperation with the government, UNICEF is conducting public awareness raising campaigns on street children and child trafficking.²⁵⁴³ ILO-IPEC is implementing a USD 2.2 million, regional project, funded by the German government, to combat the worst forms of child labor in the stability pact countries, which includes Macedonia.²⁵⁴⁴ IOM and local NGOs are implementing various counter-trafficking projects in cooperation with the government, including the anti-TIP information project "Open Your Eyes" and support for the toll free trafficking SOS number. Border Police officers participated actively in USAID sponsored training, especially as part of the Transnational Referral Mechanism project administered by the International Centre for Migration Policy Development.²⁵⁴⁵

The Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare operates one center for street children in Skopje. The center is government funded, and also receives international financial support. According to

²⁵³⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Macedonia," Section 6d.

²⁵³⁷ Ibid.

²⁵³⁸ U.S. Embassy- Skopje, E-mail communication, August 03, 2007.

²⁵³⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Macedonia," Section 5. See also United Nations, *Concluding Observations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child: The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia*, Committee on the Rights of the Child, Twenty-third session, Geneva, 2000; available from [http://www.unhcr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/\(Symbol\)/CRC.C.15.Add.118.En?Opendocument](http://www.unhcr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/(Symbol)/CRC.C.15.Add.118.En?Opendocument).

²⁵⁴⁰ U.S. Embassy- Skopje, E-mail communication, August 03, 2007.

²⁵⁴¹ Ibid. See also U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Macedonia."

²⁵⁴² U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Macedonia." See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Macedonia," Section 5.

²⁵⁴³ UNICEF, *Child Protection*, [online] July 5, 2006 [cited November 2, 2006]; available from <http://www.unicef.org/tfymacedonia/protection.html>.

²⁵⁴⁴ ILO-IPEC Geneva official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, March 1, 2007.

²⁵⁴⁵ U.S. Embassy- Skopje, E-mail communication, August 03, 2007.

the Ministry of Labor, on average 275 children a month, who were predominantly Roma, had been served by the center in the past 3 years.²⁵⁴⁶

²⁵⁴⁶ U.S. Embassy- Skopje, E-mail communication, August 03, 2007.

Madagascar

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2001, approximately 24.8 percent of boys and 23.7 percent of girls ages 6 to 14 were working in Madagascar.²⁵⁵⁸ In urban areas, it is common for children to work in domestic service.²⁵⁵⁹ They also work in bars and restaurants; in petty trading; welding and mechanical work; and transporting goods by rickshaw. Children also

engage in salt production near the city of Toliara. In coastal areas, children work in fishing, deep sea diving, and in the shrimp industry. In rural areas, children work in agriculture on

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 6-14 estimated as working in 2001:	24.3% ²⁵⁴⁷
Minimum age of work:	15 ²⁵⁴⁸
Age to which education is compulsory:	14 ²⁵⁴⁹
Free public education:	Yes ²⁵⁵⁰
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:	134% ²⁵⁵¹
Net primary enrollment rate in 2004:	89% ²⁵⁵²
Percent of children 6-14 attending school in 2001:	65.6% ²⁵⁵³
As of 2003, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	57% ²⁵⁵⁴
Ratified Convention 138:	5/31/2000 ²⁵⁵⁵
Ratified Convention 182:	10/4/2001 ²⁵⁵⁶
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Yes ²⁵⁵⁷

²⁵⁴⁷ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, March 1, 2007.

²⁵⁴⁸ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, accessed October 8, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/newratframeE.htm>. See also U.S. Department of State, "Madagascar," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78743.htm>.

²⁵⁴⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Madagascar," Section 5.

²⁵⁵⁰ Government of Madagascar, *Constitution of Madagascar*, (August 19, 1992); available from http://www.oefre.unibe.ch/law/icl/ma00000_.html.

²⁵⁵¹ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

²⁵⁵² UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Rate. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

²⁵⁵³ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

²⁵⁵⁴ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Survival Rate to Grade 5. Total*, accessed December 18, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

²⁵⁵⁵ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*.

²⁵⁵⁶ Ibid.

²⁵⁵⁷ ILO-IPEC, *IPEC Action Against Child Labour: Highlights 2006*, Geneva, October, 2006, 30; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ipcc/prod/eng/20070228_Implementationreport_en_Web.pdf.

²⁵⁵⁸ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

²⁵⁵⁹ ILO-IPEC, *Combating the Worst Forms of Child Labour in Madagascar- IPEC's Contribution to the National Action Plan to Eliminate Child Labour*, project document, Geneva, August 13, 2004, 7.

family subsistence farms, sisal and other plantations; fruit tree picking; and cattle herding—which is particularly dangerous because of the high incidence of armed cattle theft.²⁵⁶⁰

Malagasy children work in mining and quarrying, often alongside their families. Throughout the country and at Ilakaka (one major site in the south), children are involved in mining precious and semi-precious stones, as well as in informal-sector work in and around the mines. Children also work in stone quarries, performing tasks such as breaking and carrying baskets full of stones. Children as young as 5 years are found working at mining sites, and children as young as 3 years work at stone quarries.²⁵⁶¹ The commercial sexual exploitation of children is a problem in most of Madagascar's urban areas, including the capital city of Antananarivo; also, child sex tourism is common in small coastal towns and villages,²⁵⁶² especially in Tamatave, Nosy Be, and Diego Suarez.²⁵⁶³ Children exploited in prostitution are known to solicit customers on the streets or in nightclubs.²⁵⁶⁴

Children in Madagascar are trafficked internally for sexual exploitation and forced labor.²⁵⁶⁵ Malagasy children are trafficked for forced labor in gemstone mining, salt production, and loading produce onto trucks. They are trafficked from rural to urban areas for domestic work and prostitution.²⁵⁶⁶ There are reports that an active network is trafficking young girls to Antananarivo for prostitution; in some cases, this was facilitated by family members, friends, and taxi and rickshaw drivers. Some of the children engaged in prostitution in coastal cities were forced into it after being recruited in Antananarivo under false pretenses of employment as domestic workers and waitresses.²⁵⁶⁷ In Madagascar, the children at the highest risk of being trafficked include young boys and girls for labor, young girls for commercial sexual exploitation, and babies for international adoption.²⁵⁶⁸

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The minimum age for employment is 15 years.²⁵⁶⁹ The law also prohibits children from engaging in work that is harmful to their health and normal development.²⁵⁷⁰ Children under

²⁵⁶⁰ Ibid., 5-8. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Madagascar," Section 6d.

²⁵⁶¹ ILO-IPEC, *Combating the Worst Forms of Child Labour in Madagascar, project document*, 5-6. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Madagascar," Section 6d.

²⁵⁶² ILO-IPEC, *Combating the Worst Forms of Child Labour in Madagascar, project document*, 6. See also ECPAT International CSEC Database, *Madagascar*, accessed October 7, 2006; available from <http://www.ecpat.net>.

²⁵⁶³ U.S. Department of State, "Madagascar (Tier 2)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/65989.htm>. See also U.S. Embassy-Antananarivo, *reporting*, March 6, 2007. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Madagascar."

²⁵⁶⁴ ILO-IPEC, *Combating the Worst Forms of Child Labour in Madagascar, project document*, 6.

²⁵⁶⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Madagascar."

²⁵⁶⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Madagascar," Section 5. See also U.S. Embassy-Antananarivo, *reporting*, March 6, 2007.

²⁵⁶⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Madagascar." See also U.S. Embassy-Antananarivo, *reporting*, March 6, 2007.

²⁵⁶⁸ U.S. Embassy- Antananarivo, *reporting*, March 6, 2007.

²⁵⁶⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Madagascar," Section 6d. See also U.S. Embassy-Antananarivo, *reporting*, March 17, 2006.

²⁵⁷⁰ Government of Madagascar, *Madagascar Labor Code*, Loi no. 94-029 (August 25, 1995), Title V. Conditions of Work, Chapter III. Work of Women and Children, Article 100; available from

18 years are prohibited from performing work at night, on Sundays, in places that endanger children's health, safety, or morals, or in excess of 8 hours a day or 40 hours a week.²⁵⁷¹ Parents must give their permission for children to work, and before children are hired, a medical examination is required to ensure that the work to be performed does not exceed their capacity.²⁵⁷² In 2006, the government modified its child labor laws and increased the penalties for violations. Violations can now result in a fine and 1 to 3 years of imprisonment.²⁵⁷³

Forced or compulsory labor by children is prohibited under the law.²⁵⁷⁴ The law prohibits engaging in sexual activities of any kind with children under 14, as well as the production and dissemination of pornographic materials showing children.²⁵⁷⁵ Engaging in sexual activity with children under 14 is punishable by 5 to 10 years of imprisonment and a fine. The use of children in pornography is punishable by 2 to 5 years of imprisonment and a fine, with increased penalties of 3 to 10 years of imprisonment and a higher fine if children under 15 years are involved.²⁵⁷⁶ The law also prohibits children under 18 years from entering bars, discotheques, and nightclubs.²⁵⁷⁷ According to the U.S. Department of State, laws against the commercial sexual exploitation of children are inconsistent with respect to age.²⁵⁷⁸ There is no law that specifically prohibits trafficking in persons; however, traffickers can be prosecuted under laws prohibiting sex tourism, pedophilia,²⁵⁷⁹ and labor exploitation.²⁵⁸⁰ Malagasy law sets the age of conscription for military service at 18 years, but contains no provisions regarding the minimum age for enlistment.²⁵⁸¹

The Ministry of Civil Services and Labor is responsible for conducting labor inspections and enforcing laws related to child labor. However, labor inspectors are not responsible for enforcement in rural areas or the informal sector, where most children work,²⁵⁸² and, according

<http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/docs/WEBTEXT/41776/64975/F95MDG01.htm>. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Madagascar," Section 6d.

²⁵⁷¹ Government of Madagascar, *Madagascar Labor Code*, Chapter III, Articles 95 and 101. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Madagascar," Section 6d.

²⁵⁷² *Labor Code*, (August 25, 1995), Title V. Conditions of Work, Chapter III. Work of Women and Children, Article 101; available from <http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/docs/WEBTEXT/41776/64975/F95MDG01.htm>. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Madagascar," Section 6d. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Madagascar," Section 6d.

²⁵⁷³ U.S. Embassy- Antananarivo, *reporting*, March 17, 2006. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Madagascar," Section 6d. See also U.S. Embassy- Antananarivo, *reporting*, August 23, 2005.

²⁵⁷⁴ Government of Madagascar, *Madagascar Labor Code*, Title I. General Dispositions, Article 3. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Madagascar," Section 6c.

²⁵⁷⁵ Government of Madagascar, *Droits de L'enfant*, (December 28, 2001), 421-423.

²⁵⁷⁶ U.S. Embassy- Antananarivo, *reporting*, March 6, 2007.

²⁵⁷⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Madagascar." See also U.S. Embassy- Antananarivo, *reporting*, March 6, 2007.

²⁵⁷⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Madagascar."

²⁵⁷⁹ Ibid. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Madagascar," Section 5. See also U.S. Embassy- Antananarivo, *reporting*, March 6, 2007.

²⁵⁸⁰ U.S. Embassy- Antananarivo, *reporting*, March 6, 2007.

²⁵⁸¹ ILO Committee of Experts, *Direct Request, Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182) Madagascar (ratification: 2001)*, [online] 2006 [cited October 8, 2006]; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/newcountryframeE.htm>. See also Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Madagascar," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, London, 2004; available from <http://www.child-soldiers.org/resources/global-reports>.

²⁵⁸² ILO-IPEC, *Combating the Worst Forms of Child Labour in Madagascar, project document*, 10. See also

to the U.S. Department of State, the government's enforcement of child labor laws in the informal sector was problematic.²⁵⁸³ As of the end of 2006, the government employed 77 labor inspectors.²⁵⁸⁴ Provincial Child Labor Monitoring Units based in Antananarivo, Tulear, and Diego Suarez are responsible for tracking children engaged in the worst forms of child labor and are reporting this information to the National Committee to Combat Child Labor, which is comprised of government, NGOs, and civil society representatives.²⁵⁸⁵ In 2006, the government prosecuted at least three foreign nationals for child sex tourism.²⁵⁸⁶

The Ministry of Justice is responsible for enforcing laws related to trafficking,²⁵⁸⁷ and the President's Inter-Ministerial Anti-Trafficking Committee is responsible for monitoring the government's efforts to fight trafficking.²⁵⁸⁸

Police officers in the capital continued to enforce the law banning children from nightclubs; however, a lack of vehicles prevented police in other areas from enforcing this law.²⁵⁸⁹

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

In 2006, the Government of Madagascar engaged in numerous activities to combat child labor including opening new reintegration centers in Tamatave and Tulear for children engaged in prostitution and forced labor, as well as continuing to operate another reintegration center in Antananarivo.²⁵⁹⁰ In 2006, a number of ministries conducted awareness raising and other activities, which aimed to prevent child prostitution, child sex tourism, child trafficking, and child labor in the country.²⁵⁹¹ The government and UNICEF also provided technical assistance to child protection networks consisting of government and civil society representatives that provided rehabilitation, psychosocial services, and vocational and skills training to children engaged in forced labor and prostitution.²⁵⁹²

The Government of Madagascar continues to implement its 15-year National Action Plan on Child Labor, which seeks to address child labor by building organizational and technical

U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Madagascar," Section 6d.

²⁵⁸³ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Madagascar," Section 6d.

²⁵⁸⁴ U.S. Embassy- Antananarivo, *Worst Forms of Child Labor Update: Madagascar and Comoros*, submitted in response to U.S. Department of Labor Federal Register Notice (December 5, 2006) "Request for Information on Efforts to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor", December 18, 2006.

²⁵⁸⁵ U.S. Embassy- Antananarivo, *reporting, March 6, 2007*. See also U.S. Embassy- Antananarivo, *reporting, March 17, 2006*. See also U.S. Embassy- Antananarivo, *reporting, December 19, 2006*.

²⁵⁸⁶ U.S. Embassy- Antananarivo, *reporting, March 6, 2007*.

²⁵⁸⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Madagascar," Section 5.

²⁵⁸⁸ U.S. Embassy- Antananarivo, *reporting, March 6, 2007*.

²⁵⁸⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Madagascar."

²⁵⁹⁰ U.S. Embassy- Antananarivo, *Worst Forms of Child Labor Update: Madagascar, December 18, 2006*.

²⁵⁹¹ U.S. Embassy- Antananarivo, *reporting, March 17, 2006*. See also U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Madagascar." See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Madagascar," Section 5. See also U.S. Embassy- Antananarivo, *reporting, March 6, 2007*.

²⁵⁹² U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Madagascar." See also U.S. Embassy- Antananarivo, *Worst Forms of Child Labor Update: Madagascar, December 18, 2006*. See also U.S. Embassy- Antananarivo, *reporting, March 17, 2006*.

capacity, strengthening the regulatory and legal frameworks, developing a national education and training program for children involved in the worst forms of child labor, and conducting direct action programs.²⁵⁹³ As part of these efforts, the government is collaborating with ILO-IPEC on the implementation of a 4-year, USD 4.75 million Timebound Program funded by USDOL to combat the worst forms of child labor.²⁵⁹⁴ The Timebound Program aims to withdraw 6,500 children and prevent 3,500 children from exploitive labor through the provision of educational alternatives, including children working in prostitution, domestic work, stone quarrying, mining, and children working under hazardous and unhealthy conditions in the informal sector, including fishing and sisal plantation work.²⁵⁹⁵ In 2006, the government and the ILO conducted a red card campaign to raise public awareness on child labor, child trafficking, and child protection.²⁵⁹⁶ The government also collaborates with ILO-IPEC on two francophone Africa regional child labor projects with activities in Madagascar, funded by France for USD 3.6 million and USD 4.9 million.²⁵⁹⁷

The President's Inter-Ministerial Anti-Trafficking Committee continued to implement its National Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Persons. During 2006, various government ministries collaborated with NGOs to provide several trainings to magistrates, government officials, and police officers on trafficking.²⁵⁹⁸

In 2006, USAID awarded a USD 400,000 grant to Catholic Relief Services to implement the Fight Against Trafficking and Abuse program in Madagascar in collaboration with the Ministry of Justice and NGOs over 2 years. The project will target the high-risk areas of Nosy Be, Toamasina, and Toliary; its activities will include raising awareness about human trafficking; building the capacity of local organizations to offer prevention, protection and reintegration services to trafficking victims; and facilitating legal actions to fight trafficking.²⁵⁹⁹

²⁵⁹³ ILO-IPEC, *Combating the Worst Forms of Child Labour in Madagascar*, project document, 11. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Madagascar," Section 6d.

²⁵⁹⁴ ILO-IPEC, *Combating the Worst Forms of Child Labour in Madagascar*, project document, i.

²⁵⁹⁵ *Ibid.*, 43.

²⁵⁹⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Madagascar," Section 6d.

²⁵⁹⁷ ILO-IPEC Geneva official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, November 16, 2006.

²⁵⁹⁸ U.S. Embassy- Antananarivo, *reporting*, March 6, 2007.

²⁵⁹⁹ U.S. Mission to Madagascar and the Comoros, *U.S. Ambassador Launches Anti-Trafficking Program*, press release, September 26, 2006; available from <http://www.usmission.mg/prtraffickeng.htm>. See also U.S. Embassy- Antananarivo, *reporting*, August 23, 2005.

Malawi

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2004, approximately 38 percent of boys and 34 percent of girls ages 5 to 14 were working in Malawi.²⁶¹¹ Children work in agriculture on tea,²⁶¹² tobacco, and subsistence farms. Children also work in domestic service,²⁶¹³ in both urban and rural

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 2004:	35.9% ²⁶⁰⁰
Minimum age of work:	14 ²⁶⁰¹
Age to which education is compulsory:	Not compulsory ²⁶⁰²
Free public education:	Yes ^{2603*}
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:	125% ²⁶⁰⁴
Net primary enrollment rate in 2004:	95% ²⁶⁰⁵
Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 2004:	77% ²⁶⁰⁶
As of 2001, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	44% ²⁶⁰⁷
Ratified Convention 138:	11/19/1999 ²⁶⁰⁸
Ratified Convention 182:	11/19/1999 ²⁶⁰⁹
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Yes, associated ²⁶¹⁰
*Must pay for school supplies and related items.	

²⁶⁰⁰ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, March 1, 2007.

²⁶⁰¹ Government of Malawi, *Employment Act No.6 (2000)*, Article 21; available from <http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/docs/WEBTEXT/58791/65218/E00MWIo1.htm>.

²⁶⁰² U.S. Department of State, "Malawi," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78744.htm>.

²⁶⁰³ *Constitution of the Republic of Malawi*, (2004), Chapter IV. Human Rights, Article 25; available from <http://www.sdn.org.mw/constitut/dtlindx.html>. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Malawi," Section 5.

²⁶⁰⁴ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

²⁶⁰⁵ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Rate. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

²⁶⁰⁶ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

²⁶⁰⁷ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Survival Rate to Grade 5. Total*, accessed December 18, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

²⁶⁰⁸ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, accessed October 8, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/newratframeE.htm>.

²⁶⁰⁹ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, accessed October 8, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/newratframeE.htm>.

²⁶¹⁰ ILO-IPEC, *IPEC Action Against Child Labour: Highlights 2006*, Geneva, October, 2006, 30; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ippec/prod/eng/20070228_Implementationreport_en_Web.pdf.

²⁶¹¹ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

²⁶¹² Line Eldring, *Child Labour in the Tea Sector in Malawi: A Pilot Study*, Fafo, Oslo, 2003, 14, 17-20; available from <http://www.fafo.no/pub/rapp/714/714.pdf>.

²⁶¹³ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Malawi," Section 6d.

areas, and reports indicate that they rarely receive wages.²⁶¹⁴ Boys work in herding, and children engage in casual labor,²⁶¹⁵ including street vending.²⁶¹⁶ Bonded labor of entire families, including children, is widespread on tobacco plantations under the “tenant farmer system.”²⁶¹⁷

Malawi is a source and transit country for children trafficked for forced labor and commercial sexual exploitation.²⁶¹⁸ Children are trafficked to South Africa for commercial sexual exploitation.²⁶¹⁹ These children are usually between 14 and 18 years and may be recruited with promises of employment, study, or marriage.²⁶²⁰ Children are also trafficked internally for the purposes of forced labor in agriculture.²⁶²¹ Malawian boys as young as 9 years old are recruited by estate owners from Zambia and Mozambique and trafficked to these countries to engage in agricultural work under harsh conditions.²⁶²² According to the U.S. Department of State, children, including those residing in rural areas, are among the groups most at-risk for trafficking.²⁶²³

Children are exploited in prostitution,²⁶²⁴ and the commercial sexual exploitation of children is reported to be increasing in Malawi’s larger cities and towns, communities, tourist resorts, and some rural areas. There are reports that boys as well as girls are being commercially sexually exploited by tourists along Malawi’s lakeshore.²⁶²⁵ In urban areas, children engaging in prostitution are reportedly found outside nightclubs and hotels. In some communities, young

²⁶¹⁴ M.G. Tsoka, *Rapid Assessment of Child Domestic Labour in Malawi*, ILO-IPEC and the University of Malawi Centre for Social Research, Zomba, January 2005, v, 20. See also U.S. Department of State, “Country Reports-2006: Malawi,” Section 6d.

²⁶¹⁵ Tsoka, *Rapid Assessment of Child Domestic Labour in Malawi*, 20.

²⁶¹⁶ U.S. Department of State, “Country Reports- 2006: Malawi,” Section 6d.

²⁶¹⁷ International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, *Report for the WTO General Council Review of Trade Policies of Malawi*, Geneva, February 6 and 8, 2002; available from <http://www.icftu.org/displaydocument.asp?Index=991214742&Language=EN&Printout=Yes>. See also ILO-IPEC, *Country Programme to Combat Child Labour in Malawi*, project document, Geneva, 2005, 7-8. See also U.S. Department of State, “Country Reports- 2006: Malawi,” Section 6c.

²⁶¹⁸ U.S. Department of State, “Malawi (Tier 1),” in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/65989.htm>. See also U.S. Embassy- Lilongwe, *reporting*, March 1, 2007. See also United Nations Economic and Social Council Commission on Human Rights, *Report of the Special Rapporteur on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution, and Child Pornography*, Juan Miguel Petit, *Addendum: Communications to and from Governments*, Geneva, March 27, 2006, 19-20; available from <http://daccessdds.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/G06/121/93/PDF/G0612193.pdf?OpenElement>. See also Jonathan Martens, Maciej 'Mac' Pieczkowski, and Bernadette van Vuuren-Smyth, *Seduction, Sale and Slavery: Trafficking in Women and Children for Sexual Exploitation in Southern Africa, 3rd edition*, International Organization for Migration Regional Office for Southern Africa, Pretoria, May 2003, 85-92; available from <http://www.iom.org.za/Reports/TraffickingReport3rdEd.pdf>.

²⁶¹⁹ U.S. Department of State, “Country Reports- 2006: Malawi,” Section 5. See also Jonathan Martens, Maciej 'Mac' Pieczkowski, and Bernadette van Vuuren-Smyth, *Seduction, Sale and Slavery*, 85-92.

²⁶²⁰ U.S. Department of State, “Country Reports- 2006: Malawi,” Section 5.

²⁶²¹ U.S. Department of State, “Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Malawi.”

²⁶²² United Nations Economic and Social Council Commission on Human Rights, *Report of the Special Rapporteur* 19-20.

²⁶²³ U.S. Embassy- Lilongwe, *reporting*, March 1, 2007.

²⁶²⁴ U.S. Department of State, “Country Reports- 2006: Malawi,” Section 5.

²⁶²⁵ U.S. Department of State, “Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Malawi.” See also ECPAT International CSEC Database, *Malawi*, accessed October 7, 2006; available from <http://www.ecpat.net>. See also Jonathan Martens, Maciej 'Mac' Pieczkowski, and Bernadette van Vuuren-Smyth, *Seduction, Sale and Slavery*, 80-85. See also U.S. Embassy- Lilongwe, *reporting*, March 1, 2007.

girls are reportedly involved in commercial sexual exploitation in exchange for food, clothing, and other commodities. The sexual exploitation of girls is also reportedly perpetrated by teachers and fellow students,²⁶²⁶ with teachers sexually exploiting girls in exchange for money, according to UNICEF.²⁶²⁷ Girls, orphans, street children, and children in female-headed households in rural areas are the groups most vulnerable to commercial sexual exploitation.²⁶²⁸

Child Labor Law and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum age of employment at 14 years. Exceptions are made for certain work in vocational technical schools, other training institutions, and homes. The law also prohibits children between 14 and 18 years from being employed in work that could harm their health, safety, development, education, or morals, or in work that could interfere with their attendance at school or any vocational or training program. Employers are required to keep a register of all employees under the age of 18 years. Violations of any of these laws can result in a fine and 5 years of imprisonment.²⁶²⁹ The law also protects children under 16 years against economic exploitation as well as any treatment, work, or punishment that is hazardous; interferes with their education; or is harmful to their health or physical, mental, or spiritual and social development.²⁶³⁰

The Constitution prohibits slavery and servitude, as well as any forms of bonded,²⁶³¹ forced, or compulsory labor. Violators are subject to a monetary fine and 2 years of imprisonment.²⁶³² Trafficking in persons is not specifically prohibited by law, but several laws may be used to prosecute human traffickers.²⁶³³ The law prohibits the procuring of any girl under 21 years for the purpose of unlawful sexual relations, either in Malawi or elsewhere. Abduction, the procuring of a person for prostitution or work in a brothel, and involuntary detention for sexual purposes are all prohibited by law.²⁶³⁴ The minimum age for voluntary recruitment into the military is 18 years, although those younger may enlist with parental consent.²⁶³⁵

²⁶²⁶ ECPAT International CSEC Database, *Malawi*. See also Fiona Leach, Vivian Fiscian, Esme Kadzamura, Eve Lemani, and Pamela Machakanja, *An Investigative Study of the Abuse of Girls in African Schools*, Department for International Development (DFID), London, August 2003; available from <http://www.dfid.gov.uk/pubs/files/investudyafrikaedpaper54.pdf>. See also Integrated Regional Information Networks, "Malawi: Abuse of women and girls a national shame", IRINnews.org, [online], February 1, 2006 [cited accessed October 7, 2006]; available from <http://www.irinnews.org/print.asp?ReportID=51488>.

²⁶²⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Malawi," Section 5.

²⁶²⁸ ECPAT International CSEC Database, *Malawi*. See also UNICEF, *Malawi- Background*, [online] [cited October 13, 2006]; available from http://www.unicef.org/infobycountry/malawi_2424.html.

²⁶²⁹ Government of Malawi, *Employment Act No.6 Part IV*. Employment of Young Persons, Articles 21-24.

²⁶³⁰ Government of Malawi, *Constitution of the Republic of Malawi*, (2004), Chapter IV. Human Rights, Article 23; available from <http://www.sdn.org.mw/constitut/dtlindx.html>.

²⁶³¹ U.S. Embassy- Lilongwe, *reporting, March 1, 2007*.

²⁶³² *Constitution of the Republic of Malawi*, Chapter IV. Human Rights, 27; available from <http://www.sdn.org.mw/constitut/intro.html>. See also Government of Malawi, *Employment Act No.6 Part II*. Fundamental Principles, Article 4(1)-(2).

²⁶³³ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Malawi," Section 5. See also U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Malawi."

²⁶³⁴ Government of Malawi, *Penal Code*, [previously online]; available from <http://www.protectionproject.org> [hard copy on file]. See also U.S. Embassy- Lilongwe, *reporting, March 1, 2007*.

²⁶³⁵ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Malawi," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, London, 2004; available from <http://www.child-soldiers.org/resources/global-reports>.

The Ministry of Labor and Vocational Training (MOLVT) and the police are responsible for the enforcement of child labor laws and policies.²⁶³⁶ The MOLVT reported several cases of forced child labor in 2006. Most of these instances of forced labor took place on farms, and the employers were required to pay fines.²⁶³⁷ In 2006, the MOLVT hired 40 new labor inspectors and increased the number of inspections, particularly on agricultural estates.²⁶³⁸ Labor inspectors conducted inspections of tobacco and tea farms, which are considered the most common violators of child labor laws.²⁶³⁹ In rural areas, MOLVT youth committees continued to monitor and report on child labor. According to the U.S. Department of State, the child labor enforcement efforts of labor inspectors and police were hindered by a lack of resources.²⁶⁴⁰

The Ministry of Women and Child Development and the police are responsible for handling trafficking cases, and provide assistance to victims.²⁶⁴¹ The National Steering Committee on Child Labor and the National Steering Committee on Orphans and Vulnerable Children are responsible for monitoring trafficking.²⁶⁴² During 2006, the government prosecuted 10 child traffickers, most of whom were trafficking children for the purposes of agricultural work and cattle herding. The Government also arrested several individuals for abducting children for child labor. The Ministry of Women and Child Development ensured that the children were repatriated to their home villages.²⁶⁴³

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Government of Malawi, through its MOLVT, chairs a National Steering Committee on Child Labor, which is implementing an action plan against child labor.²⁶⁴⁴ The plan calls for drafting a national policy against child labor, reviewing existing legislation, establishing child labor monitoring committees, and coordinating income generation activities.²⁶⁴⁵ As part of the action plan, the government developed a National Code of Conduct on Child Labor,²⁶⁴⁶ which is distributed to farm owners.²⁶⁴⁷ The government recently committed USD 20 million to its

²⁶³⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Malawi," Section 6d.

²⁶³⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Malawi."

²⁶³⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Malawi," Section 6d. See also U.S. Embassy- Lilongwe, *reporting, March 1, 2007*.

²⁶³⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Malawi."

²⁶⁴⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Malawi," Section 6d.

²⁶⁴¹ *Ibid.*, Section 5.

²⁶⁴² U.S. Embassy- Lilongwe, *reporting, March 1, 2007*.

²⁶⁴³ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Malawi," Section 5. See also U.S. Embassy- Lilongwe, *reporting, March 1, 2007*.

²⁶⁴⁴ See ILO-IPEC, *Malawi Child Labor Baseline Survey Report*, February 12, 2003, 49.

²⁶⁴⁵ ILO, *Report of the Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations (article 1 of the Minimum Age Convention)*, ILO Conference, 74th session, Geneva, 2003; available from <http://webfusion.ilo.org/public/db/standards/normes/appl/>. See also ILO-IPEC, *Baseline Survey Report*, 50.

²⁶⁴⁶ ILO-IPEC, *Country Programme to Combat Child Labour in Malawi*, technical progress report, Geneva, September 2006.

²⁶⁴⁷ U.S. Embassy- Lilongwe, *reporting, March 1, 2007*.

2004-2009 National Plan of Action for Orphans and Vulnerable Children,²⁶⁴⁸ which includes protection for victims of human trafficking, and trafficking prevention and awareness-raising activities.²⁶⁴⁹

In 2006, the MOLVT established 60 new community child labor committees and conducted child labor trainings for estate owners and teachers. It also provided training to 55 youth activists on child labor and the National Child Labor Code of Conduct.²⁶⁵⁰ The child labor elimination unit within the MOLVT is working with UNICEF to register violations of child labor laws and build capacity on child labor issues in several districts.²⁶⁵¹

The Government of Malawi is participating in a 3-year, USD 2.1 million ILO-IPEC project, funded by USDOL, which aims to withdraw 2,000 children and prevent 3,000 children from entering exploitive labor in tobacco farming and domestic service.²⁶⁵² Winrock International is implementing a 5-year, USDOL-funded global project with activities to combat exploitive child labor through the provision of basic education in Malawi through 2007.²⁶⁵³

In 2006, the Malawi Law Commission provided judges with training, highlighting laws that could be used to prosecute child trafficking cases. The government held district meetings and educated numerous child protection officers, social workers, police and immigration officers, and judges on trafficking. The government also conducted a public awareness campaign on child trafficking and opened a center in Lilongwe that will provide trafficking victims with food, shelter, medical care, psychosocial services, legal aid, and vocational training. The government, in collaboration with UNICEF and NGOs, operated a center in the southern region for abused and exploited children, including children exploited in prostitution, which offers counseling, rehabilitation, and reintegration services.²⁶⁵⁴

²⁶⁴⁸ UNICEF, *Malawi- Background*. See also The Policy Project, *Recent Successes: Malawi*, online [cited October 18, 2006]; available from <http://www.policyproject.com/countries.cfm?country=Malawi>.

²⁶⁴⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Malawi." See also U.S. Embassy- Lilongwe, *reporting, March 1, 2007*.

²⁶⁵⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Malawi," Section 6d.

²⁶⁵¹ ILO, *Report of the Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations (Article 1 of the Minimum Age Convention)*, ILO Conference, 75th session, Geneva, 2004; available from <http://webfusion.ilo.org/public/db/standards/normes/appl/>.

²⁶⁵² ILO-IPEC, *Country Programme to Combat Child Labour in Malawi*, project document, Geneva, 2005.

²⁶⁵³ Winrock International, *Project Fact Sheet: Reducing Child Labor through Education (CIRCLE 1)*, online n.d. [cited October 13, 2006]; available from <http://www.winrock.org/fact/facts.asp?CC=5411&bu=>.

²⁶⁵⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Malawi." See also U.S. Embassy- Lilongwe, *reporting, March 1, 2007*.

Mali

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2005, approximately 66.6 percent of boys and 64.9 percent of girls ages 5 to 14 were working in Mali. The majority of working children in Mali were found in the agricultural sector (58.2 percent), followed by services (39.5 percent), manufacturing (1.9 percent), and other sectors (0.4 percent).²⁶⁶⁶ In some cases, children work as street beggars as part

of their religious instruction in Koranic schools. Money received from begging on the streets is reportedly used to support these schools. It is also reported in a study in one city that children spend more time begging on the streets than they spend learning in classrooms.²⁶⁶⁷

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 2005:	65.8% ²⁶⁵⁵
Minimum age for admission to work:	14 ²⁶⁵⁶
Age to which education is compulsory:	12 ²⁶⁵⁷
Free public education:	Yes ^{2658*}
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:	64% ²⁶⁵⁹
Net primary enrollment rate in 2004:	46% ²⁶⁶⁰
Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 2005:	44.8% ²⁶⁶¹
As of 2003, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	79% ²⁶⁶²
Ratified Convention 138:	3/11/2002 ²⁶⁶³
Ratified Convention 182:	7/14/2000 ²⁶⁶⁴
ILO-IPEC Participating Country:	Yes, associated ²⁶⁶⁵
* Must pay for uniforms, school supplies and related items.	

²⁶⁵⁵ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, October 7, 2005.

²⁶⁵⁶ Government of Mali, *Decret no. 96-178/P-RM portant Application de Diverses Dispositions de la Loi no 92-20 portant Code du travail* (June 13, 1996), Article 187; available from <http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/docs/WEBTEXT/44399/65027/F96MLI01.htm>

²⁶⁵⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Mali," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78745.htm>.

²⁶⁵⁸ Ibid.

²⁶⁵⁹ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

²⁶⁶⁰ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Rate. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

²⁶⁶¹ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Survival Rate to Grade 5. Total*, accessed December 18, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

²⁶⁶² Ibid.

²⁶⁶³ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, accessed October 20, 2006 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/newratframeE.htm>.

²⁶⁶⁴ Ibid.

²⁶⁶⁵ ILO-IPEC, *IPEC Action Against Child Labor - Highlights 2006*, Geneva, October 2006; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ippec/prod/eng/20070228_Implementationreport_en_Web.pdf.

²⁶⁶⁶ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, March 1, 2007.

²⁶⁶⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Mali," Section 5. See also CARE, *A Better Future for Mali's Children: Combating Child Trafficking through Education*, Project Document, Atlanta, October 1, 2003.

Mali is an origin, transit, and destination country for children trafficked for forced labor and commercial sexual exploitation. Most trafficking of children is internal. Children have been trafficked internally to the central regions to work in rice fields. Boys have been trafficked to work in other forms of agriculture, gold mining, and begging.²⁶⁶⁸ Girls were also trafficked from Nigeria for sexual exploitation.²⁶⁶⁹

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The minimum age for employment and apprenticeship is 14 years.²⁶⁷⁰ The law allows for children 12 to 14 to be employed with the express authorization of their parents or guardians if they work in the same establishment as and beside their parents or guardians. However, these children may not be employed for more than 4.5 hours per day (2 hours a day if they are in school).²⁶⁷¹ Children under 18 years are not allowed to engage in work that threatens their safety or morals, exceeds 8 hours per day or their physical capacity, or occurs at night.²⁶⁷²

The law prohibits forced or obligatory labor.²⁶⁷³ It also makes child trafficking punishable by 5 to 20 years of imprisonment.²⁶⁷⁴ The government requires that Malian children under 18 carry travel documents to slow cross-border trafficking.²⁶⁷⁵ However, a 2005 study published by Save the Children and UNICEF concluded that the legislation is largely ineffective and may result in the increased vulnerability of children because of corruption.²⁶⁷⁶ The law establishes penalties for sexual exploitation and abuse, however, prostitution is legal.²⁶⁷⁷ The minimum age for military conscription into the National Youth Service is 18, and military service is reported to be voluntary in practice.²⁶⁷⁸

Inspectors from the Ministry of Labor and State Reforms conduct surprise and complaint-based inspections in the formal sector, but according to the U.S. Department of State, lack of

²⁶⁶⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Mali."

²⁶⁶⁹ Ibid., Section 5.

²⁶⁷⁰ Government of Mali, *Loi no 92-020 portant Code du Travail*, (September 23, 1992); available from <http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/docs/webtext/32274/64878/F92MLI01.htm>.

²⁶⁷¹ Government of Mali, *Code du travail*, Articles D.189-35 & D.189-36.

²⁶⁷² Ibid., Articles D.189-14, D.189-15, and D.189-16. See also U.S. Department of State, "Mali," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2005*, Washington, DC, March 8, 2006, Section 6d; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2005/61580.htm>.

²⁶⁷³ Government of Mali, *Code du travail*, Article 6.

²⁶⁷⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Mali," Section 5.

²⁶⁷⁵ Government of Mali, *Gouvernement of Mali, Déterminant les spécifications techniques du titre de voyage tenant lieu d'autorisation de sortie pour les enfants âgés de zéro à dix-huit ans*, (February 20, 2002). See also Integrated Regional Information Network, "Mali: Children to Carry Mandatory Travel Documents", IRINnews.org, [online], August 10, 2001 [cited August 10, 2006]; available from http://www.irinnews.org/report.asp?ReportID=10452&SelectRegion=West_Africa&SelectCountry.

²⁶⁷⁶ Sarah Castle and Aisse Diarra, *The International Migration of Young Malians: Tradition, Necessity or Rite of Passage*, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, 2004.

²⁶⁷⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Mali," Section 5. See also UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Initial Reports of States Parties due in 1992: Mali*, CRC/C/3/Add.53, prepared by Republic of Mali, pursuant to Article 44 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, September 1997; available from [http://www.unhcr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/\(Symbol\)/CRC.C.3.Add.53.En?OpenDocument](http://www.unhcr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/(Symbol)/CRC.C.3.Add.53.En?OpenDocument).

²⁶⁷⁸ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Mali," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, London, 2004; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=784.

resources limit the frequency and effectiveness of the monitoring and enforcement of child labor laws.²⁶⁷⁹ ILO-IPEC led the National Campaign against Child labor, which is responsible for investigating cases of abusive labor reported by NGOs or the media. ILO-IPEC depends on government monitors to carry out these investigations.²⁶⁸⁰ Enforcement efforts to combat trafficking were limited with only two cases prosecuted during the year. Investigations in trafficking that had begun in 2004 were still open in 2006.²⁶⁸¹

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

In July 2006, Mali was 1 of 24 countries to adopt the Multilateral Cooperation Agreement to Combat Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children, in West and Central Africa and the Joint Plan of Action Against Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children in the West and Central African Regions.²⁶⁸² As part of the Multilateral Cooperative Agreement, the governments agreed to put into place the child trafficking monitoring system developed by the U.S. Department of Labor-funded, ILO-IPEC LUTRENA project; to ensure that birth certificates and travel identity documents cannot easily be falsified or altered; to provide assistance to each other in the investigation, arrest and prosecution of trafficking offenders; to protect, rehabilitate, and reintegrate trafficking victims; and to improve educational systems, vocational training and apprenticeships.²⁶⁸³

The Government of Mali participates in a USD 9.5 million regional USDOL-funded ILO-IPEC project to combat the trafficking of children for exploitive labor in West and Central Africa. The project targets 9,000 children for withdrawal and prevention from trafficking in 6 countries, including Mali.²⁶⁸⁴ The government is also participating in a USDOL-funded program to increase access to quality basic education for children at risk of trafficking in Mali. This project aims to withdraw 250 children and prevent 6,000 from trafficking.²⁶⁸⁵ ILO-IPEC is also implementing a Time Bound Preparation Project that aims to withdraw 3,000, children and prevent 6,000, from exploitive work in agriculture, mining, the urban informal sector, as well as domestic service from commercial sexual exploitation.²⁶⁸⁶

The Ministry for the Promotion of Women, Children, and Family and the Ministry of Labor and Civil Service cooperated with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of

²⁶⁷⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Mali," Section 6d.

²⁶⁸⁰ Ibid.

²⁶⁸¹ U.S. Department of State, "Mali (Tier 2)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/65989.htm>. See also U.S. Embassy- Bamako, *reporting*, May 26, 2005.

²⁶⁸² ECOWAS and ECASS, *Multilateral Cooperation Agreement to Combat Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, in West and Central Africa*, Abuja, July 7, 2006. See also ILO-IPEC, *Combating the Trafficking of Children for Labour Exploitation in West and Central Africa (LUTRENA)*, technical progress report, Washington, DC, September 1, 2006.

²⁶⁸³ ILO-IPEC, *LUTRENA, September 2006 technical progress report*.

²⁶⁸⁴ Ibid.

²⁶⁸⁵ U.S. Department of Labor International Child Labor Program, *A Better Future for Mali's Children: Combating Child Trafficking through Education, project document*, 2003.

²⁶⁸⁶ U.S. Department of Labor, *Support for the Preparation of the Mali Timebound Program, project summary sheet*, September 2006.

Territorial Administration to develop a program of identification, rehabilitation, education of the population, and strengthening of the legal system's stance on the trafficking of minors.²⁶⁸⁷ As an element of this initiative, the government provides temporary shelter and protection to victims at welcome centers in several cities to help child trafficking victims return to their families.²⁶⁸⁸

²⁶⁸⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Mali," Section 5.

²⁶⁸⁸ Ibid.

Mauritania

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In rural areas in Mauritania, children frequently work with their families in activities such as farming, herding, and fishing.²⁶⁹⁹ Children perform a wide range of urban informal activities, such as driving donkey carts to deliver water, street vending, and domestic work. They also work in small family businesses, construction and as auto mechanics.²⁷⁰⁰

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working:	Unavailable
Minimum age for admission to work:	14 ²⁶⁸⁹
Age to which education is compulsory:	14 ²⁶⁹⁰
Free public education:	Yes ²⁶⁹¹
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:	94% ²⁶⁹²
Net primary enrollment rate in 2004:	74% ²⁶⁹³
Percent of children 7-14 attending school in 1996:	41.8% ²⁶⁹⁴
As of 2003, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	82% ²⁶⁹⁵
Ratified Convention 138:	12/3/2001 ²⁶⁹⁶
Ratified Convention 182:	12/3/2001 ²⁶⁹⁷
ILO-IPEC Participating Country:	No ²⁶⁹⁸

In addition, girls from remote areas of the country work as unpaid domestic servants in urban households, and Mauritanian boys (*talibes*) living with Koranic teachers are forced to beg, in some regions for more than 12 hours a day without adequate

²⁶⁸⁹ Government of Mauritania, *Code du travail, 2004*, Loi No. 2004-017, (July 2004), Article 153.

²⁶⁹⁰ UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Written Replies by the Government of Mauritania Concerning the List of Issues CRC/C/Q/MAU/1*, prepared by Government of Mauritania, pursuant to Additional report on the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, August 16, 2001; available from <http://www.unhcr.ch/html/menu2/6/crc/doc/replies/wr-mauritania-1.pdf>.

²⁶⁹¹ U.S. Department of State, "Mauritania," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78746.htm>.

²⁶⁹² UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

²⁶⁹³ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Rate. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

²⁶⁹⁴ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, March 1, 2007.

²⁶⁹⁵ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Survival Rate to Grade 5. Total*, accessed December 18, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

²⁶⁹⁶ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, accessed October 11, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/newratframeE.htm>.

²⁶⁹⁷ Ibid.

²⁶⁹⁸ ILO-IPEC, *IPEC Action Against Child Labour; Highlights 2006*, Geneva, October 2006; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ippec/prod/eng/20061019_Implementationreport_eng_Web.pdf.

²⁶⁹⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Mauritania," Section 6d.

²⁷⁰⁰ Ibid. See also U.S. Embassy- Nouakchott, *reporting*, August 30, 2005. See also U.S. Embassy- Nouakchott, *reporting*, August 18, 2004.

food and shelter provisions.²⁷⁰¹ In remote areas of the country where the economy continues to rely on traditional labor and barter arrangements, such as the practice of slavery and indentured servitude that have historically been utilized in Saharan communities, children continued to be exploited in slave-like practices and actual slavery itself. Mauritania is also a source and destination country for trafficking in children for forced labor. Young girls are trafficked to Mali and within Mauritania to serve as domestic servants. Mauritanian boys trafficked within the country are often forced to work as beggars as part of their religious instruction through the Koranic schools.²⁷⁰²

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum age for employment at 14 years unless the child has not yet completed the 9 years of compulsory education in which case the minimum working age may be raised.²⁷⁰³ At 12 years, children may perform light work in establishments where their family members are employed, provided that they have the Minister of Labor's authorization and maintain their schooling.²⁷⁰⁴ However, 12-year-olds may not work more than 2 hours a day, with the total combined hours of school and work not to exceed 7 hours a day, and the work must not be harmful to their normal development.²⁷⁰⁵ Children under 14 may not work on Fridays or public holidays, and children under 16 are prohibited from night work.²⁷⁰⁶ The law also bans children under 18 years from work that is beyond their strength or is likely to harm their safety, health, or morals.²⁷⁰⁷ Employers must maintain a registry of employed youths under 18, including hours worked.²⁷⁰⁸ Violation of Mauritania's child labor laws may result in a prison sentence of 15 days to 1 month and/or a fine.²⁷⁰⁹

Mauritanian law defines the worst forms of child labor as all forms of slavery and exploitative work, work exceeding the physical capacity of a child or considered degrading, work connected to trafficking in children, and activities requiring children to handle chemicals or dangerous materials, work on Fridays or holidays, and work outside the country.²⁷¹⁰ With parental consent, or failing that, with permission from the Minister of Defense, children may enlist voluntarily in the military at 16. The law also requires every citizen to register for

²⁷⁰¹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Mauritania," Section 5 and 6d. See also U.S. Department of State, "Mauritania (Tier 2 Watch List)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/65989.htm>.

²⁷⁰² U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Mauritania." See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Mauritania," Section 5 and 6c.

²⁷⁰³ Government of Mauritania, *Code du travail, 2004*, Article 153.

²⁷⁰⁴ *Ibid.*, Articles 153-154.

²⁷⁰⁵ *Ibid.*, Article 154.

²⁷⁰⁶ *Ibid.*, Articles 155 and 164.

²⁷⁰⁷ *Ibid.*, Article 247. See also ILO NATLEX National Labor Law Database, *Arreté no. 239 du 17 septembre 1954*, accessed October 11, 2006; available from

http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/natlex_browse.details?p_lang=en&p_country=MRT&p_classification=04&p_origin=COUNTRY&p_sortby=SORTBY_COUNTRY.

²⁷⁰⁸ Government of Mauritania, *Code du travail, 2004*, Article 156.

²⁷⁰⁹ *Ibid.*, Articles 449-450.

²⁷¹⁰ U.S. Embassy- Nouakchott, *reporting, August 18, 2004*.

military service at 17, although there has been no active military registration in recent years.²⁷¹¹ Forced and compulsory labor and trafficking in persons are prohibited by law,²⁷¹² with the penalty for the trafficking of children being imprisonment for 5 to 10 years and a fine.²⁷¹³ In addition, the law establishes penalties for engaging in prostitution or procuring prostitutes, ranging from fines to imprisonment for 2 to 5 years for cases involving minors.²⁷¹⁴

The Ministry of Labor and Employment is the primary agency responsible for enforcing child labor laws and regulations. However, according to the U.S. Department of State, the labor inspectorate, which comprises only eight inspectors and six controllers, lacks the capacity to investigate and address potential violations because of a lack of resources.²⁷¹⁵ The Ministry of Justice has established a technical commission to implement the anti-trafficking law, and the government hosted workshops on how to identify, investigate, and prosecute trafficking cases.²⁷¹⁶ During 2006, approximately five trafficking cases were brought before the government for prosecution; however, in all cases, the State Prosecutor determined that the persons in question were not victims of trafficking.²⁷¹⁷

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

In 2006, the Government of Mauritania created the National Commission for Human Rights responsible for coordinating government efforts to prevent trafficking and for operating six centers to provide food, shelter, and limited medical care to indigent people, including many boys living with Koranic teachers.²⁷¹⁸ The Mauritanian Government also established the Commissariat for Human Rights, Poverty Alleviation and Insertion. The objectives of the commissariat include promoting literacy, education, health care, and addressing economic

²⁷¹¹ ILO Committee of Experts, *Direct Request, Worst Forms of Child Labor Convention, 1999 (No. 182) Mauritania (ratification: 2001)*, [online] 2005 [cited March 6, 2007]; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/newcountryframeE.htm>. See also U.S. Embassy- Nouakchott official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, August 11, 2006. See Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Mauritania," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, London, 2004; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=785.

²⁷¹² Government of Mauritania, *Code du travail, 2004*, Article 5. See also ILO Committee of Experts, *Direct Request, Convention No. 182: Mauritania*.

²⁷¹³ Government of Mauritania, *Public Comments to USDOL*, July 30, 2004. See also ILO Committee of Experts, *Direct Request, Worst Forms of Child Labor Convention, 1999 (No. 182) Mauritania (ratification: 2001)*, [online] 2005 [cited March 6, 2007]; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/newcountryframeE.htm>.

²⁷¹⁴ Government of Mauritania, *Ordonnance 83-162 du 09 juillet 1983 portant institution d'un Code pénal*, (July 9, 1983); available from <http://www.droit-afrique.com/images/textes/Mauritanie/Mauritanie%20-%20Code%20penal.pdf>.

²⁷¹⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Mauritania," Section 6d. See also U.S. Embassy- Nouakchott, *reporting*, December 11, 2006.

²⁷¹⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Mauritania." See also U.S. Embassy- Nouakchott, *reporting*, February 28, 2007.

²⁷¹⁷ U.S. Embassy- Nouakchott, *reporting*, February 28, 2007.

²⁷¹⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Mauritania." See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Mauritania," Section 5.

concerns as well as combating child labor and human trafficking.²⁷¹⁹ By October 2006, the government also developed an anti-trafficking action plan for its law enforcement agencies.²⁷²⁰

²⁷¹⁹ Mauritanian Government official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, December 15, 2006.

²⁷²⁰ U.S. Department of State, *Trafficking in Persons Interim Assessment*, Washington, DC, January 19, 2007; available from www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/rpt/78948.htm.

Mauritius

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

While the incidence of child labor in Mauritius is low,²⁷³⁰ children work as informal street traders; in agriculture and animal rearing; in garment making; and in bakeries, restaurants, gas stations, shops, woodworking workshops, and other small businesses.²⁷³¹ Commercial sexual exploitation of girls as young as 13 years

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working:	Unavailable
Minimum age of work:	16 ²⁷²¹
Age to which education is compulsory:	16 ²⁷²²
Free public education:	Yes ²⁷²³
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2005:	102% ²⁷²⁴
Net primary enrollment rate in 2005:	95% ²⁷²⁵
Percent of children 5-14 attending school:	Unavailable
As of 2001, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	99% ²⁷²⁶
Ratified Convention 138:	7/30/1990 ²⁷²⁷
Ratified Convention 182:	6/8/2000 ²⁷²⁸
ILO-IPEC participating country:	No ²⁷²⁹

²⁷²¹ Government of Mauritius, *Report of the Government of Mauritius on Worst Forms of Child Labour*, submitted in response to U.S. Department of Labor Federal Register Notice (December 5, 2006) "Request for Information on Efforts by Certain Countries to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor", Washington, DC, January 29, 2007.

²⁷²² Government of Mauritius, *Report on Worst Forms of Child Labour, Republic of Mauritius*, submitted in response to U.S. Department of Labor Federal Register Notice (December 5, 2006) "Request for Information on Efforts by Certain Countries to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor", Washington, DC, February 20, 2007.

²⁷²³ U.S. Department of State, "Mauritius," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78747.htm>.

²⁷²⁴ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

²⁷²⁵ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Rate. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

²⁷²⁶ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Survival Rate to Grade 5. Total*, accessed December 18, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

²⁷²⁷ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, accessed December 14, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/newratframeE.htm>.

²⁷²⁸ Ibid.

²⁷²⁹ ILO, *IPEC Action Against Child Labour- Highlights 2006*, Geneva, October 2006, 29; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ippec/prod/eng/20061019_Implementationreport_eng_Web.pdf.

²⁷³⁰ U.S. Embassy- Port Louis, *reporting*, December 19, 2006.

²⁷³¹ Government of Mauritius, *Comments from the Government of the Republic of Mauritius*, submitted in response to U.S. Department of Labor Federal Register Notice (July 14, 2004) "Request for Information on Efforts by Certain Countries to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor", Washington, D.C., September 27, 2004. See also U.S. Embassy- Port Louis, *reporting*, December 19, 2006. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Mauritius," Section 6d. See also ILO, *Report of the Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations (C. 138)*, ILO Conference, 73rd session, Geneva, 2003; available from <http://webfusion.ilo.org/public/db/standards/normes/appl/index.cfm?lang=EN>.

reportedly occurs in Mauritius. Some girls are forced into the commercial sex industry by family members, while others are exploited by prostitution rings.²⁷³²

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

In December 2006, the Government of Mauritius raised the minimum age of employment from 15 to 16 years, in line with the minimum age of compulsory education.²⁷³³ It is illegal to employ a young person under age 18 in activities that are dangerous, harmful to health, or otherwise unsuitable, or to require a young person to work more than 10 hours per day or between 6 p.m. and 6 a.m.²⁷³⁴ In addition, young persons who have not been fully instructed or are inadequately supervised are prohibited from operating dangerous machinery. The law also provides for the health and safety of young persons working aboard ships.²⁷³⁵

The Ministry of Labor, Industrial Relations and Employment enforces child labor laws, and the U.S. Department of State reports that child labor inspections are frequent. Employers found in violation of child labor laws may be imprisoned for up to 1 year. No cases of child labor were found in 2006.²⁷³⁶ The government's Office of the Ombudsperson for Children investigates violations of child rights and is empowered to investigate cases of unlawful employment of children.²⁷³⁷

The law prohibits forced labor and slavery, and there is no system of military conscription.²⁷³⁸ Child pornography and causing, inciting, or allowing any child to engage in prostitution are crimes punishable by imprisonment of up to 8 years, or up to 15 years if the victim is mentally handicapped.²⁷³⁹ The law also prohibits the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring, or receipt of a child for the purpose of exploitation, either outside Mauritius or within its borders. These crimes are punishable by up to 15 years of imprisonment.²⁷⁴⁰ A dedicated unit within the

²⁷³² U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Mauritius," Section 5. See also ILO, *Report of the Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations (C. 182)*, ILO Conference, 76th session, Geneva, 2006; available from <http://webfusion.ilo.org/public/db/standards/normes/appl/index.cfm?lang=EN>. See also U.S. Department of State, "Mauritius (Tier 2)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/65989.htm>.

²⁷³³ Government of Mauritius, *Report of the Government of Mauritius on Worst Forms of Child Labour*. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Mauritius," Section 6d.

²⁷³⁴ Government of Mauritius, *Report of the Government of Mauritius on Worst Forms of Child Labour*.

²⁷³⁵ Government of Mauritius, *Comments from the Government of Mauritius*.

²⁷³⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Mauritius," Section 6d. See also U.S. Embassy- Port Louis, *reporting, December 19, 2006*.

²⁷³⁷ U.S. Embassy- Port Louis, *reporting, December 19, 2006*.

²⁷³⁸ *Constitution of the Republic of Mauritius*, (March 12, 1968); available from <http://confinder.richmond.edu>. See also Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Mauritius," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, London, November 17, 2004; available from <http://www.child-soldiers.org/resources/global-reports>.

²⁷³⁹ Government of Mauritius, *Report on Worst Forms of Child Labour, 2007*. See also *The Child Protection Act, Article 4*, Sections 14, 18, as cited in Interpol, *Legislation of Interpol Member States on Sexual Offences Against Children: Mauritius*, June 21, 2006; available from <http://www.interpol.int/Public/Children/SexualAbuse/NationalLaws/csaMauritius.asp>.

²⁷⁴⁰ Government of Mauritius, *The Child Protection (Amendment) Act No. 34*, (December 16, 2005), Article 13A, Sections 1, 2; available from [http://supremecourt.intnet.mu/Entry/Act%202005/No.%20034-CHILD%20PROTECTION%20\(AMENDMENT\)%20ACT%202005.doc](http://supremecourt.intnet.mu/Entry/Act%202005/No.%20034-CHILD%20PROTECTION%20(AMENDMENT)%20ACT%202005.doc).

police force, the Minors Brigade, investigates cases of child prostitution.²⁷⁴¹ During 2005, the most recent year for which data are available, six cases of underage prostitution were prosecuted. The U.S. Department of State reports that despite the efforts of law enforcement officials, locating and arresting criminals involved in child prostitution remains a challenge because of the illicit nature of these activities.²⁷⁴²

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Government of Mauritius is carrying out a National Plan of Action to combat the commercial sexual exploitation of children.²⁷⁴³ Among other goals, the plan aims to develop indicators for monitoring child sexual exploitation and empower the public to protect children against commercial sexual exploitation.²⁷⁴⁴ The government operates a drop-in center that provides counseling and educational services to children exploited in the commercial sex industry,²⁷⁴⁵ and it funds local NGOs to educate the public on the issue of commercial sexual exploitation of children.²⁷⁴⁶ The Ministry of Women's Rights, Child Development and Family Welfare operates a hotline to respond to children in need of immediate support services, a shelter for children, and a Child Watch Network to detect children at risk and refer them to appropriate authorities.²⁷⁴⁷

²⁷⁴¹ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Mauritius."

²⁷⁴² Ibid.

²⁷⁴³ Government of Mauritius, *Report on Worst Forms of Child Labour, 2007*. See also UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Consideration of Reports Submitted by States Parties Under Article 44 of the Convention: Concluding Observations: Mauritius*, Geneva, March 17, 2006, para 64; available from [http://www.unhchr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/\(Symbol\)/CRC.C.MUS.CO.2.En?OpenDocument](http://www.unhchr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/(Symbol)/CRC.C.MUS.CO.2.En?OpenDocument).

²⁷⁴⁴ UN Economic and Social Council, *Rights of the Child: Report Submitted by Juan Miguel Petit, Special Rapporteur on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography*, Commission on Human Rights, 60th session, Geneva, 2004, para 52; available from <http://www.unhcr.org/home/RSDCOI/403e35df4.pdf>.

²⁷⁴⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Mauritius," Section 5.

²⁷⁴⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Mauritius."

²⁷⁴⁷ Ministry of Women, Family Welfare, and Child Development of Mauritius, *Speech by Hon. Arianne Navarre Marie, Minister of Women's Rights, Child Development & Family Welfare at the Opening Ceremony of the Workshop on Children's Rights Observatory*, November 17, 2004; available from http://www.gov.mu/portal/site/women-site/menuitem.cd538e63b1742c5aa0a07651a0208a0c/?content_id=b9f8757ff0658010VgnVCM100000ca6a12acRCRD.

Moldova

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2000, approximately 31.2 percent of boys and 28.9 percent of girls ages 5 to 14 were working in Moldova.²⁷⁵⁷ It is common for parents to send their children to work on family farms or other forms of work.²⁷⁵⁸

According to the Government of Moldova, the number of registered cases of the worst forms of child labor increased between 2001 and 2004, the most recent period for which such information is available.²⁷⁵⁹ The Ministry of Internal Affairs reported that in 2003, 3,681 children were living or working in the street.²⁷⁶⁰

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 2000:	30.1% ²⁷⁴⁸
Minimum age for admission to work:	16 years ²⁷⁴⁹
Age to which education is compulsory:	9 years ²⁷⁵⁰
Free public education:	Yes ²⁷⁵¹
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2002:	86% ²⁷⁵²
Net primary enrollment rate in 2002:	79% ²⁷⁵³
Percent of children 5-14 attending school:	Unavailable
Percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	Unavailable
Ratified Convention 138:	9/21/1999 ²⁷⁵⁴
Ratified Convention 182:	6/14/2002 ²⁷⁵⁵
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Yes ²⁷⁵⁶

Moldova is a major country of origin for children trafficked abroad for sexual exploitation, forced labor, and begging.²⁷⁶¹ There have been reports that girls are trafficked internally from

²⁷⁴⁸ UNICEF MICS UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, October 7, 2005.

²⁷⁴⁹ U.S. Embassy- Chisinau, *reporting*, August 26, 2005. See also ILO-IPEC, *Trafficking and other Worst Forms of Child Labour in Central and Eastern Europe (Phase II)*, project document, Geneva, 2006, 34.

²⁷⁵⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Moldova," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78828.htm>.

²⁷⁵¹ Government of Moldova, *Constitution of the Republic of Moldova, 1994*, Article 35; available from <http://www.e-democracy.md/en/legislation/constitution/>.

²⁷⁵² UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross and Net Enrolment Ratios. Primary*, accessed December 2005; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

²⁷⁵³ *Ibid.*

²⁷⁵⁴ ILO, *List of Ratifications of International Labor Conventions, C182 Worst Forms of Child Labor Convention, 1999*, February 5, 2007; available from <http://webfusion.ilo.org/public/db/standards/normes/appl/appl-byConvYear.cfm?hdroff=1&Lang=EN&conv=C182>.

²⁷⁵⁵ *Ibid.*

²⁷⁵⁶ ILO-IPEC, *IPEC Action Against Child Labour: Highlights 2006*, Geneva, October 2006, 29; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ippec/prod/eng/20061019_Implementationreport_eng_Web.pdf.

²⁷⁵⁷ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

²⁷⁵⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Moldova," Section 6d.

²⁷⁵⁹ United Nations, *Common Country Assessment*, United Nations, Chisinau, July 2005, 37; available from http://www.un.md/key_doc_pub/doc/CCA_Eng_last.pdf.

²⁷⁶⁰ PROTECT CEE, *Moldova Country Profile*, [online] 2006 [cited October 19, 2006], 4; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ippec/prod/eng/2005_fs_moldova.pdf.

²⁷⁶¹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Moldova," Section 5.

rural areas to Chisinau.²⁷⁶² Estimates on the numbers of child trafficking victims remain limited. In 2004, the IOM reported that 40 percent of trafficking victims were minors at the time of trafficking, and that 12 percent were minors at the time of their return.²⁷⁶³ According to information gathered by ILO-IPEC through a rapid assessment survey, boys and girls as young as 12 years are trafficked, many of them recruited by people they know.²⁷⁶⁴ Migration for work has left approximately 23,000 children parentless. These children often do not have proper supervision and are at greater risk of being trafficked and being involved in other worst forms of child labor.²⁷⁶⁵

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum age for employment at 16 years.²⁷⁶⁶ In certain cases, children 15 years can work with parental or legal authorization, if the work will not interfere with the child's education or growth. Children between 15 and 16 can only work a maximum of 25 hours a week and no more than 5 hours a day. Children between 16 and 18 years can only work a maximum of 35 hours a week and no more than 7 hours a day.²⁷⁶⁷ Children must pass a medical exam every year until they reach 18 to be eligible to work.²⁷⁶⁸ Children under 18 years are prohibited from participating in hazardous work, including work at nightclubs or work involving gambling or selling tobacco or alcohol. Legal remedies, civil fines and criminal penalties exist to enforce the provisions of the labor law, with prison terms of up to 3 years for repeat offenses.²⁷⁶⁹ The government has approved a list of hazardous work forbidden to children, including underground work, metal work, energy and heat production, and well drilling.²⁷⁷⁰

In September 2006, the Ministry of Education, Youth, and Sports issued two orders concerning child labor. The first prohibits the involvement of students in agricultural work in the autumn of 2006. The Municipal Departments of Education were tasked to monitor the situation and the General Department of Pre-University Education was tasked with enforcement. The second forbids pre-university students from doing work that threatens life or health, allows participation in harvest-related work only with parental permission, and orders teachers to

²⁷⁶² U.S. Department of State, "Ukraine (Tier 2)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/>.

²⁷⁶³ U.S. Department of State, "Ukraine," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2005*, Washington, DC, March 8, 2006, Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/drl/rls/hrrpt/2005/61682.htm>.

²⁷⁶⁴ ILO-IPEC, *Rapid Assessment of Trafficking in Children for Labour and Sexual Exploitation in Moldova, 2003*, Chisinau, 2004, 25-28, 54-56; available from http://www.ilo.org/public/english/standards/ippec/publ/download/cee_moldova_ra_2003.pdf. See also ILO-IPEC, *Combating the Trafficking in Children for Labour and Sexual Exploitation in the Balkans and Ukraine*, project document, Geneva, September 2003, 10.

²⁷⁶⁵ PROTECT CEE, *Moldova Country Profile*, 5.

²⁷⁶⁶ ILO-IPEC, *Balkans Child Trafficking Phase II, project document*, 34.

²⁷⁶⁷ See the Labor Law as cited in U.S. Embassy- Chisinau, *reporting, August 26, 2005*. See also U.S. Embassy- Chisinau, *reporting*, December 8, 2006, Section 6d.

²⁷⁶⁸ U.S. Embassy- Chisinau, *reporting, August 26, 2005*.

²⁷⁶⁹ U.S. Embassy- Chisinau, *reporting*, October 16, 2002.

²⁷⁷⁰ U.S. Embassy- Chisinau, *reporting, August 26, 2005*. See also U.S. Embassy- Chisinau, *reporting, August 26, 2005*.

accompany students who work in agriculture. Only 2 weeks of work is permitted, and schools are required to sign agreements with employers regarding pay and working conditions.²⁷⁷¹

The constitution prohibits forced labor and the exploitation of minors.²⁷⁷² The law provides for 10 years to life imprisonment for trafficking and using children in the worst forms of child labor, as defined by ILO Convention 182.²⁷⁷³ Penalties increased to 15 years to life imprisonment and confiscation of property for repeated or more serious offenses such as trafficking in children, through deception, kidnapping, or abuse of power with violence or by a criminal organization.²⁷⁷⁴ The law protects children under 18 years from prostitution or sexual exploitation.²⁷⁷⁵ The law permits vulnerable youth from 16 to 18 years (including those living in residential institutions, orphans, children from single parent families, and victims of trafficking) to receive benefits from the Unemployment Fund.²⁷⁷⁶ Although the law contains prohibitions against trafficking, some traffickers are prosecuted under less severe pimping charges.²⁷⁷⁷ The minimum age for compulsory military service is 18 years. The minimum age for voluntary military service for officer trainees is 17 years, though participation in active combat is not permitted until 18 years.²⁷⁷⁸

The Labor Inspection Office is responsible for enforcing all labor laws, including those pertaining to child labor. In 2006, 10 enterprises were sanctioned for failure to create adequate work conditions for minors.²⁷⁷⁹ The law permits inspection of both legal workplaces and workers, including child workers. The inspectors are also allowed to seek assistance from local public administrators to withdraw licenses of employers who repeatedly neglect labor inspection recommendations.²⁷⁸⁰ The U.S. Department of State reports that the Government of Moldova does not enforce its child labor laws effectively.²⁷⁸¹

The Ministry of Justice is responsible for addressing juvenile delinquency and the social reintegration of children who have been used for criminal activities and are at risk of trafficking.²⁷⁸² The law stipulates police protection for the victims/witnesses in trafficking cases. The U.S. Department of State and others report that because of financial constraints the law has been inadequately implemented, and very few witnesses feel safe enough to testify in court.²⁷⁸³ Under the law, trafficking victims are permitted to receive benefits, although there

²⁷⁷¹ U.S. Embassy- Chisinau, *reporting, December 8, 2006.*

²⁷⁷² Government of Moldova, *Constitution of the Republic of Moldova*, Articles 44 and 50.

²⁷⁷³ U.S. Embassy- Chisinau, *reporting, August 26, 2005.* See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Moldova," Section 5, 6d.

²⁷⁷⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2005: Ukraine," Section 5.

²⁷⁷⁵ U.S. Embassy- Chisinau, *reporting, August 26, 2005.*

²⁷⁷⁶ *Ibid.*

²⁷⁷⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Ukraine."

²⁷⁷⁸ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, *Child Soldiers Global report 2004*, 2004; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=917.

²⁷⁷⁹ U.S. Embassy- Chisinau, *reporting, August 26, 2005.* See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Moldova," Section 6d.

²⁷⁸⁰ U.S. Embassy- Chisinau, *reporting, August 26, 2005.*

²⁷⁸¹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Moldova," Section 6d.

²⁷⁸² ILO-IPEC, *Combating Trafficking in Children for Labour and Sexual Exploitation in the Balkans and Ukraine*, technical progress report, RER/03/P50/USA, Bucharest, March 2005, 3.

²⁷⁸³ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Ukraine." See also Barbara Limanowska, *Trafficking in Human Beings in Southeastern Europe. 2003 Update on Situation and Responses to Trafficking in Human*

are no reports that anyone has done so.²⁷⁸⁴ The inter-agency Center to Combat Trafficking in Persons is involved in law enforcement in trafficking cases.²⁷⁸⁵ Border controls are inadequate, especially in Transnistria, and low-paid border guards and migration officials are susceptible to bribery.²⁷⁸⁶ The government withdrew the licenses of several employment agencies and tourism companies for suspected involvement in trafficking activities.²⁷⁸⁷

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The National Strategy of Labor Force Employment (2002-2008) aims to end discrimination against youth of legal working age in the labor market, which is considered an important anti-trafficking strategy.²⁷⁸⁸ The National Human Rights Action Plan was also revised to include measures to address trafficking in persons.²⁷⁸⁹

The Government of Moldova had a Second National Action Plan to Prevent and Combat Trafficking in Persons (2005-2006).²⁷⁹⁰ The government also participates in the Stability Pact for Southeast European Cooperative Initiative on Trafficking in Human Beings, which fosters regional cooperation and offers assistance to governments to combat trafficking.²⁷⁹¹ In partnership with OSCE and the Council of Europe, the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the Ministry of Economy and Trade conducted a special training for trafficking investigators.²⁷⁹² The Ministry of Economy and Trade has partnered on a small scale with international and local NGOs to provide employment assistance to victims of trafficking and to address the root causes that increase at-risk populations' vulnerability of being trafficked.²⁷⁹³

The Government of Moldova participated in a USD 1.5 million USDOL-funded ILO-IPEC regional project to combat the trafficking of children for labor and sexual exploitation. The project worked in partnership with local organizations to strengthen local anti-trafficking committees, support youth centers, provide training to representatives of trade unions and

Beings in: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Serbia and Montenegro including the UN Administered Province of Kosovo, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Moldova, and Romania., December 2003, 79; available from http://www.osce.org/documents/odihr/2003/12/1645_en.pdf.

²⁷⁸⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Ukraine."

²⁷⁸⁵ Ibid. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Moldova," Section 5.

²⁷⁸⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Moldova," Section 5.

²⁷⁸⁷ Ibid.

²⁷⁸⁸ ILO-IPEC, *Combating Trafficking in Children for Labour and Sexual Exploitation in the Balkans and Ukraine, Moldova Country Strategy*, project document, RER/03/P50/USA, October 2004, 7.

²⁷⁸⁹ ILO-IPEC, *Combating Trafficking in Children for Labour and Sexual Exploitation in the Balkans and Ukraine*, 2.

²⁷⁹⁰ U.S. Embassy- Chisinau, *reporting, August 26, 2005*. See also ILO-IPEC, *Child Trafficking Project, progress report March 2006*, 3.

²⁷⁹¹ Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, *Stability Pact for Southeastern Europe: Task Force on Trafficking in Human Beings*, [hard copy on file] accessed May 11, 2005], [hard copy on file]. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Moldova," Section 5.

²⁷⁹² OSCE, *Training Police to Combat Human Trafficking in Moldova*, [online] May 30 2005 [cited October 22, 2006]; available from <http://www.osce.org/item/14059.html>. See also Limanowska, *Trafficking in Human Beings*, 2003, 76.

²⁷⁹³ Centre for the Prevention of Trafficking in Women, *Trafficking in Children for Sexual Exploitation in the Republic of Moldova*, Chisinau, 2003; available from http://www.ecpat.net/eng/Ecpat_inter/projects/promoting_law/East-West_Research-2004/Moldova_ENG.pdf.

employers' associations, encourage employment for at risk youth, and improve rehabilitative care.²⁷⁹⁴ The project withdrew 34 children and prevented 359 children from exploitive labor in Moldova.²⁷⁹⁵ The government is also participating in the USD 3.5 million USDOL-funded second phase of the project (2006-2009). The project is operating in Albania, Bulgaria, the UN-administered Province of Kosovo, Moldova, Romania, and Ukraine. The project aims to withdraw 1,350 children and prevent 3,150 children from exploitive labor in the region.²⁷⁹⁶ The government is also participating in the USD 2.2 million German Government-funded ILO-IPEC project to combat child labor in the Stability Pact countries.²⁷⁹⁷ The Government of Moldova is also supporting three U.S. Government-funded anti-trafficking projects implemented by Catholic Relief Services, Winrock International, and UNDP. The projects aim to assist children and young women who were trafficked or at risk of trafficking.²⁷⁹⁸

Various U.S. Government donor agencies have supported establishing a network of transition centers for victims returned to Moldova who were trafficked and for those vulnerable to trafficking. The centers link victims to legitimate employment opportunities and strengthen law enforcement efforts.²⁷⁹⁹

In November 2004, the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) announced their support to implement the *Economic Growth and Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (EGPRSP)*, which contains direct references to trafficking in persons.²⁸⁰⁰ In an effort to provide youth in Moldova with developmental opportunities, the government's State Department for Youth and Sports has begun implementation of the National Youth Strategy that includes the establishment of 9 community centers for youth; non-formal education sessions that reach more than 14,000 young people; and financial support to 25 youth NGOs. A draft of the UN Country Common Assessment that will serve as a basis for the development of the UN's development framework for the years 2005 to 2008 has integrated child labor issues, including the trafficking of children.²⁸⁰¹

²⁷⁹⁴ ILO-IPEC, *Combating Trafficking in Children for Labor and Sexual Exploitation in the Balkans and Ukraine*, technical progress report, Geneva, September 7, 2006. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2005: Ukraine," Section 6d.

²⁷⁹⁵ ILO-IPEC, *Combating Trafficking in Children for Labor and Sexual Exploitation in the Balkans & Ukraine*, technical progress report, Geneva, January 31, 2007, 63.

²⁷⁹⁶ ILO-IPEC, *Balkans Child Trafficking Phase II, project document*, cover page, 69.

²⁷⁹⁷ ILO-IPEC official, Email communication to USDOL official, November 16, 2006.

²⁷⁹⁸ ILO-IPEC, *Balkans Trafficking, technical progress report September 2006*, 19,20. See also Catholic Relief Services, *Moldova Employment and Training Alliance (META)*, technical progress report, Chisinau, January 31, 2007.

²⁷⁹⁹ U.S. Embassy- Chisinau, *reporting, August 26, 2005*.

²⁸⁰⁰ ILO-IPEC, *Combating Trafficking in Children for Labour and Sexual Exploitation in the Balkans and Ukraine*, 2.

²⁸⁰¹ Ibid.

Mongolia

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Because Mongolia is traditionally a nomadic herding society, most working children can be found in rural areas, in the livestock sector.²⁸¹² Boys generally herd and tend livestock, while girls mostly undertake domestic tasks, milking cows and producing dairy products, collecting animal dung for fire,

preparing food, washing, shearing wool, and gathering fruit and nuts.²⁸¹³ Children as young as 5 years old are engaged in informal gold and fluorspar mining.²⁸¹⁴ These children face severe health hazards, such as exposure to mercury and handling of explosives in the mines.²⁸¹⁵ Children working in mining are also vulnerable to drug abuse and sexual exploitation.²⁸¹⁶ The National Human Rights Commission of Mongolia estimates that there are 40 to 50 horse racing

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 2003 :	7.2% ²⁸⁰²
Minimum age for admission to work:	16 ²⁸⁰³
Age to which education is compulsory:	16 ²⁸⁰⁴
Free public education:	Yes ²⁸⁰⁵
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:	104% ²⁸⁰⁶
Net primary enrollment rate in 2004:	84% ²⁸⁰⁷
Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 2003:	73.3% ²⁸⁰⁸
Percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade five:	Unavailable
Ratified Convention 138:	12/16/2002 ²⁸⁰⁹
Ratified Convention 182:	2/26/2001 ²⁸¹⁰
ILO-IPEC Participating country:	Yes ²⁸¹¹

²⁸⁰² UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank Surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Records*, March 1, 2007.

²⁸⁰³ *Labor Law of Mongolia (as Amended)*; available from <http://www.indiana.edu/~mongsoc/mong/laborlaw.htm>.

²⁸⁰⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Mongolia," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/65989.htm>.

²⁸⁰⁵ *Constitution of Mongolia, 1992*, (January 13, 1992), Article 16(7); available from <http://www.law.nyu.edu/centralbankscenter/texts/Mongolia-Constitution.html>.

²⁸⁰⁶ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross and Net Enrolment Ratios Primary accessed November 2006*; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/TableViewer/tableView.asp?ReportId=51>.

²⁸⁰⁷ Ibid.

²⁸⁰⁸ SIMPOC, MICS, and Surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Records*.

²⁸⁰⁹ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/cgi-lex/ratifice.pl?Mongolia>.

²⁸¹⁰ Ibid.

²⁸¹¹ ILO-IPEC, *IPEC action against child labour: Highlights 2006*, Geneva, October 2006, 29; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ippec/prod/eng/20061019_Implementationreport_eng_Web.pdf.

²⁸¹² ILO-IPEC, *National Program for the Prevention and Elimination of Child Labor in Mongolia, Phase II*, project document, Geneva, April 9, 2002.

²⁸¹³ Ibid. See also ILO-IPEC, *Helping Hands or Shackled Lives? Understanding Child Domestic Labour and Responses to it*, Geneva, 2004, 22; available from http://www.ilo.org/public/english/standards/ippec/publ/download/cdl_2004_helpinghands_en.pdf.

²⁸¹⁴ ILO-IPEC, *Baseline Survey on Child and Adult Workers in Informal Gold and Fluorspar Mining*, Ulaan Baatar, 2006.

²⁸¹⁵ Ibid., 37.

²⁸¹⁶ ILO-IPEC, *Eliminating Child Labour in Mining and Quarrying Background Document*, Geneva, June 12, 2005, 8, 9; available from <http://www.ilo.org/public/english/bureau/inf/download/child/background.pdf>.

events each year, and at each event, 2,000 children between the 6 and 16 years are engaged as jockeys. Horse racing poses risks to the life and health of the children involved.²⁸¹⁷

In urban areas, children sell goods, wash cars, polish shoes, collect and sell coal and wood, and work as porters.²⁸¹⁸ Children also work informally in petty trade, scavenging in dumpsites, and working in factories.²⁸¹⁹ There were reports of children trafficked internally for commercial sexual exploitation.²⁸²⁰

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum age for employment at 16 years, with some exceptions.²⁸²¹ Children 15 years may work with the permission of a parent or guardian, as long as employment does not harm their health, physical growth, and moral status.²⁸²² Children 14 years may work in vocational education programs with the consent of a parent or guardian.²⁸²³ Children 14 and 15 years may not work for more than 30 hours, and children 16 and 17 years may not work for more than 36 hours per week.²⁸²⁴ Children under 18 may not work at night, in arduous, noxious or hot conditions, or underground.²⁸²⁵ They are also prohibited from working overtime, on public holidays, or weekly rest days.²⁸²⁶

The Constitution prohibits forced labor,²⁸²⁷ and forcing a child to work is punishable by imprisonment for up to 4 years or fines.²⁸²⁸ Trafficking of a minor is punishable by imprisonment for 5 to 10 years; if committed by an organized group, the term of imprisonment increases to 10 to 15 years.²⁸²⁹ However, contacts within the government acknowledge that legal provisions regarding trafficking are weak and need to be amended.²⁸³⁰ Production and dissemination of pornographic materials involving a person less than 16 years are punishable by imprisonment for 3 to 6 months or fines.²⁸³¹ Involving a minor in prostitution is also illegal, and if the crime is committed repeatedly or by using violence or threat, it is punishable by a prison term of 3 to 5 years or fines.²⁸³² The minimum age for military conscription is 18.²⁸³³

²⁸¹⁷ ILO Committee of Experts, *Direct Request, Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182) Mongolia (ratification: 2001)*, 2006 [cited November 7, 2006]; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/cgi-lex/pdconv.pl?host=status01&textbase=iloeng&document=18894&chapter=9&query=%28C29%2C+C105%2C+C138%2C+C182%29+%40ref+%2B+%28Mongolia%29+%40ref+%2B+%23YEAR%3E2000&highlight=&querytype=bool&context=0>.

²⁸¹⁸ ILO-IPEC, *National Program in Mongolia, Phase II, project document*, 17.

²⁸¹⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Mongolia."

²⁸²⁰ *Ibid.*

²⁸²¹ *Labor Law of Mongolia (as Amended)*, Article 85.

²⁸²² *Ibid.*

²⁸²³ *Ibid.*

²⁸²⁴ *Ibid.*, Article 26.

²⁸²⁵ *Ibid.*, Article 86.

²⁸²⁶ *Ibid.*

²⁸²⁷ *Constitution of Mongolia, 1992*, Article 16(4).

²⁸²⁸ *Criminal Code of Mongolia*, (2002), Article 121; available from <http://www.unhcr.org/cgi-bin/texis/vtx/rsd/rsddocview.pdf?tbl=RSDLEGAL&id=3ed919fd4>.

²⁸²⁹ *Ibid.*, Article 113.

²⁸³⁰ U.S. Embassy- Ulaanbaatar, *reporting*, March 9, 2005.

²⁸³¹ *Criminal Code of Mongolia*, Article 123.

²⁸³² *Ibid.*, Article 115.

Mongolian law prohibits the use of children in forced labor, illicit activities, begging, slavery, and work that is harmful to their health, morals, or safety.²⁸³⁴

Despite the existing legislative measures to protect children's rights, the Committee on the Rights of the Child has expressed concern about the insufficient number of implementation measures and some contradictory provisions of the domestic laws that leave children without adequate protection, including the ability of children to engage in work before reaching the compulsory school age.²⁸³⁵

The Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare's (MOSWL) Department of Employment and Social Welfare Service and the National Department for Children (NDC) share responsibility for child labor issues.²⁸³⁶ The MOSWL presides over the Labor Code, while the NDC administers the National Plan of Action for the Protection and Development of Children (2002-2010).²⁸³⁷

State labor inspectors assigned to regional and local offices are responsible for enforcing labor laws, but enforcement has been limited because of the small number of inspectors and the growing number of independent enterprises.²⁸³⁸ The MOSWL is the lead government agency on trafficking issues, but the Ministry of Justice and Home Affairs enforces trafficking-related laws.²⁸³⁹

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Government of Mongolia is participating in a USD 2.9 million USDOL-funded ILO-IPEC project. The Mongolia Timebound Program, which is set to run through 2009, is designed to strengthen the country's ability to take action against the worst forms of child labor in Mongolia and to develop an area-based intervention model at the local level targeting children at risk or engaged in the worst forms of child labor. The program targets children involved in mining, commercial sexual exploitation, work in dumpsites or marketplace, herding and domestic work.²⁸⁴⁰ The project aims to withdraw 2,700 children from the worst forms of child labor and prevent 3,300 children from engaging in child labor.²⁸⁴¹

²⁸³³ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Mongolia," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, London, 2004; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=859.

²⁸³⁴ ILO-IPEC, *National Programme for the Prevention and Elimination of Child Labour in Mongolia (Phase II)*, Status Report, Status Report, Geneva, June 16, 2003, Annex II, 3.

²⁸³⁵ UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Consideration of Reports Submitted by States Parties Under Article 44 of the Convention, Concluding observations: Mongolia*, CRC/C/15/Add.264, Geneva, September 21, 2005, 3; available from

[http://www.unhcr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/898586b1dc7b4043c1256a450044f331/480889c76b2a2309c12570bc004c51a0/\\$FILE/G0544018.pdf](http://www.unhcr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/898586b1dc7b4043c1256a450044f331/480889c76b2a2309c12570bc004c51a0/$FILE/G0544018.pdf). Does not match "prepared by state parties" guidelines.

²⁸³⁶ USDOL official, trip report, May 30-June 10, 2005. No example in guidelines.

²⁸³⁷ Ibid.

²⁸³⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Mongolia."

²⁸³⁹ U.S. Embassy- Ulaanbaatar, *reporting*.

²⁸⁴⁰ ILO-IPEC, *Support to the Proposed National Sub-programme to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour: Time-Bound Measures*, technical progress report, Geneva, September 2006.

²⁸⁴¹ Ibid.

The Republic of Montenegro

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Children in the Republic of Montenegro can be found working on family farms. Roma children also work in the informal sector, selling small items or washing car windows.²⁸⁴⁹

Children are involved in prostitution. An estimated 15-25 percent of children in prostitution are trafficking victims.²⁸⁵⁰

Internal trafficking is reportedly on the rise.²⁸⁵¹ Roma children are often forced to beg or to perform manual labor by their families, and are trafficked abroad for forced begging and theft rings.²⁸⁵² Montenegro is also a transit country for trafficked children.²⁸⁵³

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working:	Unavailable
Minimum age for admission to work:	15 ²⁸⁴²
Age to which education is compulsory:	15 ²⁸⁴³
Free public education:	Yes ^{2844*}
Gross primary enrollment rate:	Unavailable
Net primary enrollment rate:	Unavailable
Percent of children 5-14 attending school:	Unavailable
Percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	Unavailable
Ratified Convention 138:	No ²⁸⁴⁵
Ratified Convention 182:	No ²⁸⁴⁶
ILO-IPEC participating country:	No ²⁸⁴⁷
*Must pay for school supplies and related items. ²⁸⁴⁸	

²⁸⁴² U.S. Embassy- Podgorica, *reporting*, November 30, 2006.

²⁸⁴³ Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, *Thematic Review of National Policies for Education: Montenegro*, CCNM/DEELSA/ED(2001)9, September 10, 2001, 6; available from [http://www.oecd.org/OLIS/2001DOC.NSF/43bb6130e5e86e5fc12569fa005d004c/c1256985004c66e3c1256ac300518441/\\$FILE/JT00112297.PDF](http://www.oecd.org/OLIS/2001DOC.NSF/43bb6130e5e86e5fc12569fa005d004c/c1256985004c66e3c1256ac300518441/$FILE/JT00112297.PDF).

²⁸⁴⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Montenegro," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006>. See also Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, *Thematic Review of National Policies for Education: Montenegro*.

²⁸⁴⁵ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, accessed April 12, 2007; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/newratframeE.htm>.

²⁸⁴⁶ Ibid.

²⁸⁴⁷ ILO, *IPEC Action Against Child Labour: Highlights 2006*

Geneva, February 2007; available from <http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/public/english/standards/ipecc/doc-view.cfm?id=3159>.

²⁸⁴⁸ U.S. Embassy- Podgorica, *reporting*, November 30, 2006.

²⁸⁴⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Montenegro," Section 6d.

²⁸⁵⁰ Ibid., Section 5.

²⁸⁵¹ Barbara Limanowska, *Trafficking in Human Beings in South Eastern Europe 2004 - Focus on Prevention in: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Moldova, Romania, Serbia and Montenegro, the UN Administered Province of Kosovo*

UNDP, New York, March 2005, 63, 119; available from

<http://www.unicef.org/ceecis/Trafficking.Report.2005.pdf>. See also U.S. Department of State, "Serbia and Montenegro (Tier 2 Watch List)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/65987.htm>. See also U.S. Embassy- Podgorica, *reporting*, November 30, 2006.

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The minimum age of employment is 15 years.²⁸⁵⁴ Children under 18 years are not permitted to work in jobs that involve particularly difficult physical work, overtime and night work, underground or underwater work, or in jobs that “may have a harmful effect on or involve increased risk for their health and lives.”²⁸⁵⁵ The law provides for monetary penalties for violation of these provisions.²⁸⁵⁶

Forced labor is prohibited.²⁸⁵⁷ Montenegro abolished conscription into the military on August 30, 2006.²⁸⁵⁸ The minimum age to volunteer for the Montenegro military is 18 years.²⁸⁵⁹ The Labor Inspectorate of the Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare is responsible for the enforcement of labor laws, including those protecting children from exploitation in the workplace. The Ministry has 40 inspectors covering labor issues. No evidence of child labor violations were discovered through labor investigations through November 2006.²⁸⁶⁰ The government’s enforcement efforts were generally effective according to the U.S. Department of State.²⁸⁶¹

Trafficking in persons is prohibited in Montenegro, with a maximum prison penalty of 10 years.²⁸⁶² In 2006, there were eight trafficking convictions with prison sentences ranging from 2.5 to 3 years.²⁸⁶³ Police, prosecutors, judges and other officials were trained specifically on trafficking. However, according to the U.S. Department of State there have been reports of corruption among some police and customs officials complicit in trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation. The government has not taken action against such officials.²⁸⁶⁴

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Government of Montenegro continued to sponsor public awareness campaigns on trafficking in 2006²⁸⁶⁵ and assumed funding for a trafficking shelter in January 2006.²⁸⁶⁶

²⁸⁵² U.S. Embassy- Podgorica, *reporting, November 30, 2006*. See also U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Serbia and Montenegro." See also Limanowska, *Trafficking in Human Beings in South Eastern Europe 2004*, 64.

²⁸⁵³ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Montenegro," Section 5.

²⁸⁵⁴ U.S. Embassy- Podgorica, *reporting, November 30, 2006*.

²⁸⁵⁵ ILO, *Report of the Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations: Individual Direct Request concerning Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138) Serbia and Montenegro (ratification: 2000) Submitted: 2006 092006SCG138*, Geneva, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/newcountryframeE.htm>.

²⁸⁵⁶ *Ibid.*

²⁸⁵⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Montenegro," Section 6c.

²⁸⁵⁸ U.S. Embassy- Podgorica, E-mail communication to USDOL official, August 02, 2007.

²⁸⁵⁹ U.S. Embassy- Podgorica, E-mail communication to USDOL official, August 07, 2007.

²⁸⁶⁰ U.S. Embassy- Podgorica, *reporting, November 30, 2006*.

²⁸⁶¹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Montenegro," Section 6d.

²⁸⁶² *Ibid.*, Section 5.

²⁸⁶³ *Ibid.*

²⁸⁶⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Serbia and Montenegro."

²⁸⁶⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Montenegro," Section 5.

²⁸⁶⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Serbia and Montenegro."

Morocco

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 1998-1999, approximately 13.5 percent of boys and 12.8 percent of girls ages 7 to 14 were working in Morocco. The majority of working children were found in the agricultural sector (60.6 percent), followed by services (10.1 percent), manufacturing (8.2 percent), and other sectors (21.1 percent).²⁸⁷⁸

Of the children who work

in the agricultural sector, most work on family farms, picking fruit and vegetables or working as shepherds, and do not attend school. Child work is most prevalent in Doukala, an agricultural province south of Casablanca, where an estimated 26.1 percent of children 7 to 14 are working the fields and tending livestock.²⁸⁷⁹ Children in rural areas are reportedly six times

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 7-14 estimated as working in 1998-1999:	13.2% ²⁸⁶⁷
Minimum age for admission to work:	15 ²⁸⁶⁸
Age to which education is compulsory:	15 ²⁸⁶⁹
Free public education:	Yes ²⁸⁷⁰
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:	106% ²⁸⁷¹
Net primary enrollment rate in 2004:	86% ²⁸⁷²
Percent of children 7-14 attending school in 1998:	51.7% ²⁸⁷³
As of 2003, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	76% ²⁸⁷⁴
Ratified Convention 138:	1/06/2000 ²⁸⁷⁵
Ratified Convention 182:	1/26/2001 ²⁸⁷⁶
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Yes ²⁸⁷⁷

²⁸⁶⁷ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, March 1, 2007, Article 143.

²⁸⁶⁸ Government of Morocco, *Royal Decree No.1.03.194 of September 11, 2003, Concerning the Promulgation of Law no. 65-99 on the Labor Code*, (June 6, 2004). See also U.S. Consulate- Casablanca, *reporting*, January 18, 2007.

²⁸⁶⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Morocco," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78859.htm>.

²⁸⁷⁰ Ibid.

²⁸⁷¹ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

²⁸⁷² UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Rate. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

²⁸⁷³ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Attendance Statistics*, December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

²⁸⁷⁴ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Survival Rate to Grade 5. Total*, accessed December 18, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

²⁸⁷⁵ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, accessed March 21, 2007; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/newratframeE.htm>.

²⁸⁷⁶ Ibid.

²⁸⁷⁷ ILO, *IPEC Action Against Child Labour- Highlights 2006*, Geneva, October 2006; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ipcc/prod/eng/20061018_Implementationreport_eng.pdf.

²⁸⁷⁸ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

²⁸⁷⁹ ILO, World Bank, and UNICEF, *Understanding Children's Work in Morocco*, UCW Project, Geneva, March 2003, 2, 20, 52; available from http://www.ucw-project.org/pdf/publications/report_morocco_draft.pdf. See also U.S. Consulate- Casablanca, *reporting* May 5, 2005. See also U.S. Consulate- Casablanca, *reporting*, January 20, 2005.

more likely to be working than those in urban areas.²⁸⁸⁰ Children also work in the industrial and artisanal sectors, in the production of textiles and carpets, and other light manufacturing activities.²⁸⁸¹ A large number of children work as junior artisans in the handicraft industry, many of them working as apprentices before they reach 12 years and under substandard health and safety conditions.²⁸⁸²

Thousands of street children live and work in Morocco's urban centers. Street children in Morocco engage in diverse forms of work including selling cigarettes, begging, shining shoes, and washing and polishing cars.²⁸⁸³ Street children are predominantly boys, but girls, commonly former household maids who have fled abusive employers, are also seen on the street in increasing numbers. Street children are vulnerable to sexual, physical, and substance abuse, and to being forced into illicit activities such as prostitution, selling drugs, or theft in order to collect money for gang leaders.²⁸⁸⁴

Commercial sexual exploitation involves both boys and girls in Morocco.²⁸⁸⁵ There are official reports of child prostitution in the cities of Agadir, Meknès, Tangier, Marrakech, Fez, and Casablanca. Isolated cases of child pornography have been reported in the country, but the Minister of Human Rights and the Parliamentary Commission on Social Affairs indicates that it goes mostly undetected.²⁸⁸⁶

Morocco is a country of destination for children trafficked from sub-Saharan Africa, North Africa, and Asia, and it serves as a transit and origin point for children trafficked to Europe for forced labor, drug trafficking, and commercial sexual exploitation.²⁸⁸⁷ Children are also trafficked internally for exploitation as child domestic workers and beggars, and for prostitution. A growing number of girls are trafficked to El-Hajeb in the Middle Atlas, where they are forced into prostitution.²⁸⁸⁸ In urban areas, many girls working as domestic servants can be found in situations of unregulated "adoptive servitude," in which girls from rural areas are sold by their parents, trafficked, and "adopted" by wealthy urban families to work in their

²⁸⁸⁰ ILO, World Bank, and UNICEF, *Understanding Children's Work in Morocco*, 2.

²⁸⁸¹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006 Morocco," Section 6d. See also UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Consideration of Reports Submitted by States Parties, CRC/C/OPSA/MAR/1*, pursuant to Article 12(1) of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography: Morocco, Initial reports of States parties due in 2004, July 15, 2005, para. 137. See ILO-IPEC, *Combating Child Labour in Morocco by Creating an Enabling National Environment and Developing Direct Action Against Worst Forms of Child Labour in Rural Areas*, technical progress report, Geneva, March 15, 2006, 7.

²⁸⁸² ILO, World Bank, and UNICEF, *Understanding Children's Work in Morocco*, 26. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006 Morocco," Section 5d.

²⁸⁸³ Kingdom of Morocco and Ministry of Labor, *Synthèse d'une étude préliminaire sur les enfants de la rue*, Rabat, October 2001, para 137. See also UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Periodic Reports of States Parties: Morocco*, para 137. See also U.S. Consulate- Casablanca, *reporting, January 18, 2007*.

²⁸⁸⁴ ILO, World Bank, and UNICEF, *Understanding Children's Work in Morocco*, 29-30.

²⁸⁸⁵ *Ibid.*, 28-29. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006 Morocco," Section 5.

²⁸⁸⁶ ILO, World Bank, and UNICEF, *Understanding Children's Work in Morocco*, 29. See also U.S. Consulate- Casablanca, *reporting, January 20, 2005*. See also U.S. Consulate- Casablanca, *reporting, March 7, 2007*.

²⁸⁸⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006 Morocco," Section 6d.

²⁸⁸⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Morocco," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, DC, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/65988.htm>. See also ECPAT International CSEC Database, *Morocco*, accessed November 20, 2006; available from <http://www.ecpat.net/>.

homes.²⁸⁸⁹ Children are also “rented” out by their parents or other relatives to beg. According to a 2004 survey conducted by the Moroccan League for the Protection of Children, children younger than 7 had been offered by their parents to serve as sympathy props for adult beggars.²⁸⁹⁰

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The minimum age for employment in Morocco is 15 years.²⁸⁹¹ The minimum age restriction applies to the industrial, commercial, and agricultural sectors, and extends to children working in apprenticeships and family enterprises.²⁸⁹² Children under 16 are prohibited from working more than 10 hours per day, which includes at least a 1-hour break.²⁸⁹³ Children under 16 are not permitted to work between 9 p.m. and 6 a.m. in non-agricultural work, or between 8 p.m. and 5 a.m. in agricultural activities.²⁸⁹⁴ It is prohibited to employ children under 18 in stone quarries or for underground work carried out in mines.²⁸⁹⁵ Employers may not permit workers to use products or substances, equipment, or machinery deemed potentially hazardous to their health or safety, or permit minors to perform activities that pose an extreme danger to them, exceed their capacities, or result in a breach of public morals.²⁸⁹⁶

The law provides protection for abandoned children in Morocco, but there are concerns that some persons may be abusing its provisions. According to the law, persons under 18 and unable to support themselves economically are identified as abandoned if their parents are unknown, unable to be located, or incompetent to assume a parental role. These children are then considered eligible for adoption, and adoptive parents are entitled to a stipend from the government.²⁸⁹⁷ There has been some concern that girls are being fostered at higher rates than boys and then allegedly forced to work, and that this is facilitating the practice of “adoptive servitude.”²⁸⁹⁸

²⁸⁸⁹ U.S. Department of State, “Country Reports- 2006 Morocco,” Section 6d. See also WTO General Council Review of Trade Policies and ICFTU, *Internationally-Recognised Core Labour Standards in Morocco*, Geneva, June 16-18, 2003, 8; available from http://www.icftu.org/www/pdf/cls_morocco_2003.pdf.

²⁸⁹⁰ U.S. Consulate- Casablanca, *reporting, January 20, 2005*.

²⁸⁹¹ *Royal Decree No.1.03.194 of September 11, 2003, concerning the promulgation of Law no. 65-99 on the Labor Code*, (June 6), Article 143. See also U.S. Consulate - Casablanca, *reporting, August 25, 2004*.

²⁸⁹² U.S. Department of State, “Morocco,” in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2005*, Washington, DC, March 8, 2006, Section 6d; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2005/61695/htm>. See also ILO, World Bank, and UNICEF, *Understanding Children’s Work in Morocco*, 38.

²⁸⁹³ *Labor Code*, Articles 184 and 188. See also U.S. Department of State, “Country Reports- 2006 Morocco,” Section 6d.

²⁸⁹⁴ *Labor Code*, Article 172.

²⁸⁹⁵ *Ibid.*, Article 179.

²⁸⁹⁶ *Ibid.*, Articles 181 and 287.

²⁸⁹⁷ UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Summary Record of the 882nd Meeting, Consideration of Reports Submitted by States Parties (continued): Second Periodic Report of Morocco (continued)*, CRC/C/SR/.882, pursuant to Article 44 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, July 16, 2003, paras 18-19; available from [http://www.unhchr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/898586b1dc7b4043c1256a450044f331/8e3b9ac683d8dd0ac1256d7a004a2b52/\\$FILE/G0342258.pdf](http://www.unhchr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/898586b1dc7b4043c1256a450044f331/8e3b9ac683d8dd0ac1256d7a004a2b52/$FILE/G0342258.pdf).

²⁸⁹⁸ *Ibid.*, para 43.

The Ministry of Employment, Social Affairs, and Solidarity is responsible for implementing and enforcing child labor laws and regulations.²⁸⁹⁹ The law provides for legal sanctions against employers who actively recruit children under 15. Violators are punished with a fine, and in case of a second offense, with imprisonment of 6 days to 3 month or additional fine.²⁹⁰⁰ Other remedies to enforce child labor laws include withdrawal or suspension of one or more civil, national, or family rights, including denial of legal residence in the country for 5 to 10 years.²⁹⁰¹ The law enables inspectors and the police to bring charges against employers of children under 15 in all sectors, including apprenticed children and children working in family businesses.²⁹⁰² However, the informal sector is not closely monitored by the small number of Ministry labor inspectors.²⁹⁰³

The minimum age for compulsory conscription into government armed forces is 20 years.²⁹⁰⁴ The prostitution of children, child trafficking, and corruption of minors are prohibited under the law. Those found involved in or who fail to prevent trafficking, including government officials, are subject to fines and prison sentences²⁹⁰⁵ Anyone who incites a minor under 18 to commit a vice or who contributes to the corruption of a minor is subject to a prison sentence of 2 to 10 years and a fine.²⁹⁰⁶ Any person who uses violence, threats, or fraud to abduct (or attempt to abduct) a minor under 18 years or who facilitates the abduction of a minor may be imprisoned for up to 5 to 10 years. If the minor is under the age of 12, the sentence is doubled from 10 to 20 years.²⁹⁰⁷

The Ministry of Interior is responsible for implementing and enforcing anti-trafficking activities and regulations.²⁹⁰⁸ In 2006, the Moroccan Government convicted 3 foreigners for engaging in child sex tourism and 10 others for trafficking in children in Morocco.²⁹⁰⁹

²⁸⁹⁹ U.S. Department of State, *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2004: Morocco*, Washington, D.C., February 28, 2005, Section 6d; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2004/41728.htm>.

²⁹⁰⁰ Government of Morocco, *Note on Child Labor* submitted in response to U.S. Department of Labor Federal Register Notice (December 5, 2006) "Request for Information on Efforts by Certain Countries to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor", Washington DC, February 28, 2007.

²⁹⁰¹ UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Consideration of Reports Submitted by States Parties: Morocco, Second Periodic Reports of States Parties Due in 2000*, CRC/C/93/Add.3, pursuant to Article 44 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, February 12, 2003, para 647.

²⁹⁰² U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006 Morocco," Section 6d. See also *Labor Code*, Article 533.

²⁹⁰³ U.S. Consulate- Casablanca, *reporting, January 18, 2007*.

²⁹⁰⁴ See Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Morocco," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, London, 2004; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=948. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006 Morocco," Section 6d.

²⁹⁰⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006 Morocco," Section 5.

²⁹⁰⁶ UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Periodic Reports of States Parties: Morocco*, paras 23-37. See also U.S. Consulate-Casablanca, Email communication to USDOL official, March 25, 2004. See also U.S. Consulate-Casablanca *reporting, January 20, 2004*.

²⁹⁰⁷ U.S. Department of State, *Country Reports- 2004: Morocco*, Section 5. See also ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations (CEACR), *Report of the Committee of Experts on Morocco's Application of ILO Convention No. 182, Observation, CEACR 2004/75th Session*, pursuant to Article 22 of the ILO Constitution, 2004; available from <http://webfusion.ilo.org/public/db/standards/normes/appl/index.cfm?lang=EN>.

²⁹⁰⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006 Morocco," Section 5. See also U.S. Consulate- Casablanca, *reporting, March 7, 2007*.

²⁹⁰⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Morocco."

According to the U.S. Department of State, law enforcement agencies actively investigate, prosecute, and convict traffickers.²⁹¹⁰

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Government of Morocco has put in place a number of action programs toward the achievement of its 2005-2015 National Action Plan to Eliminate Child Labor.²⁹¹¹ The focus of the national plan includes improving implementation and raising awareness of child labor laws and improving basic education. Sectoral plans target children in agriculture and herding, the industrial sector (carpets and stitching), metal and auto work, construction, the hospitality industry, food production, street children, and children subjected to commercial sexual exploitation.²⁹¹² In February 2006, under the direction of the Minister of Labor (MOL), a Child Labor Unit was created in the Directorate of Labor to address the issue directly.²⁹¹³ In May, the MOL announced Ingad, the first program targeting child maids. The program will raise public awareness about the issue, withdraw girls from domestic service and reintegrate them into society.²⁹¹⁴

The Government of Morocco is participating in two USDOL-funded projects to eliminate child labor and provide educational opportunities for working children. The first effort is the USD 3 million ADROS: Combating Child Labor through Education project executed by Management Systems International, which aims to eliminate the practice of selling and hiring child domestic workers and to create educational opportunities for child laborers and those vulnerable to child labor.²⁹¹⁵ As of September 2006, the program had successfully exceeded targets withdrawing 8,779 child maids from exploitive work and placed them in training and educational programs. The second effort in the amount of USD 2.25 million is an ILO-IPEC project that aims to strengthen national efforts against the worst forms of child labor in Morocco and to remove and prevent 5,000 children from work in rural areas of the country.²⁹¹⁶

²⁹¹⁰ Ibid. See also U.S. Consulate- Casablanca, *reporting, January 18, 2007*.

²⁹¹¹ U.S. Consulate- Casablanca, *reporting, January 20, 2005*. See also Government of Morocco, *Note on Child Labor*.

²⁹¹² UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Periodic Reports of States Parties: Morocco*, paras 98-99 and 128-129.

²⁹¹³ ILO-IPEC, *ILO-IPEC, "technical progress report"*. See also U.S. Consulate- Casablanca, *reporting, January 18, 2007*.

²⁹¹⁴ U.S. Consulate- Casablanca, *reporting, January 18, 2007*.

²⁹¹⁵ Management Systems International, *Adros: Combatting Child Labor Through Education in Morocco*, technical progress report, March-August, Rabat, September 29, 2006.

²⁹¹⁶ U.S. Consulate - Casablanca, *reporting, August 25, 2004*. See also ILO-IPEC, *Combating Child Labour in Morocco by Creating an Enabling National Environment and Developing Direct Action Against Worst Forms of Child Labour in Rural Areas*, project document, Geneva, September 10, 2003, 1-2.

Mozambique

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In Mozambique, some children are forced to work in commercial agriculture, in prostitution and as domestics.²⁹²⁷ In rural areas, children work on family or commercial farms, often picking cotton or tea.²⁹²⁸ Children also work in the urban informal sector guarding cars, collecting scrap metal, and selling food and trinkets in the streets.²⁹²⁹

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working:	Unavailable
Minimum age for admission to work:	15 ²⁹¹⁷
Age to which education is compulsory:	12 ²⁹¹⁸
Free public education:	Yes ^{*2919}
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:	95% ²⁹²⁰
Net primary enrollment rate in 2004:	71% ²⁹²¹
Percent of children 7-14 attending school in 1996:	51.7% ²⁹²²
As of 2001, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	49% ²⁹²³
Ratified Convention 138:	6/16/2003 ²⁹²⁴
Ratified Convention 182:	6/16/2003 ²⁹²⁵
ILO-IPEC Participating Country:	Yes, associated ²⁹²⁶
*Must pay fees and for school supplies and related items.	

Children are trafficked internally and to South Africa, often with the complicity of family members, for forced labor and commercial sexual exploitation. Women and girls are trafficked

²⁹¹⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Mozambique," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 6d; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78748.htm>.

²⁹¹⁸ Ibid., Section 5.

²⁹¹⁹ Ibid.

²⁹²⁰ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

²⁹²¹ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Rate. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

²⁹²² UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, March 1, 2007.

²⁹²³ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Survival Rate to Grade 5. Total*, accessed December 18, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

²⁹²⁴ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, accessed December 29, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/docs/declworld.htm>.

²⁹²⁵ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, accessed December 29, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/docs/declworld.htm>.

²⁹²⁶ ILO-IPEC, *IPEC Action Against Child Labour- Highlights 2006*, Geneva, October, 2006; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ippec/prod/eng/20070228_Implementationreport_en_Web.pdf.

²⁹²⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Mozambique," Section 6d.

²⁹²⁸ Ibid., Section 6d.

²⁹²⁹ Ibid., Section 6d., See also Ministry of Labor Government of Mozambique, and UNICEF, *Child Labor Rapid Assessment: Mozambique (Part 1)*, Geneva, 1999/2000.

both in country and to South Africa for forced labor and sexual exploitation. Also, young men and boys are trafficked in country and to South Africa for farm work and domestic service.²⁹³⁰

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The minimum age for employment of minors is 15 years. In exceptional cases, the law allows children between 12 and 15 to work with the joint approval of the Ministries of Labor, Health, and Education. The law restricts the conditions under which minors between 15 and 18 may work, and commits employers to provide for their education and professional training.

Children between 15 and 18 are prohibited from working more than 38 hours per week and more than 7 hours per day.

Minors under 18 are not permitted to work in unhealthy or dangerous or physically taxing occupations, must undergo a medical examination, and must be paid at least minimum wage or 2/3 of the adult salary, whichever is more.²⁹³¹ Violators of child labor laws are subject to fines, the Ministry of Labor has the authority to enforce and regulate child labor laws in both the formal and informal sectors. Labor inspectors may obtain court orders and use the police to enforce compliance with child labor legislation. According to the U.S. Department of State, however, both the Labor Inspectorate and police lack adequate staff, funds, and training to investigate child labor cases, especially outside the capital. The U.S. Department of State claims that the law is enforced in the formal sector but enforcement is inadequate in the informal sector.²⁹³²

The law prohibits the practice of prostitution of any form, including that of children. Procuring a minor is punishable by imprisonment for 6 months to 2 years.²⁹³³ Although the law contains provisions that can be applied to the trafficking of children, it does not contain a provision specific to that crime.²⁹³⁴ However, enforcement initiatives dramatically improved.²⁹³⁵ The first trafficking case was tried in March 2006, when two men were convicted of selling a minor. In February 2006, six men were arrested by police for intent to traffic 43 people across the South African border. Several trafficking schemes were broken in 2006, resulting in more than a dozen arrests and the liberation of more than 90 victims.²⁹³⁶ The age for conscription and voluntary recruitment into the military is 18 years. In times of war, however, the minimum age for military conscription may be lowered.²⁹³⁷

²⁹³⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Mozambique (Tier 2)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/65989.htm>. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Mozambique," Section 5.

²⁹³¹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Mozambique," Section 6d.

²⁹³² Ibid.

²⁹³³ The Protection Project, *Mozambique*, [online] 2006 [cited August 27, 2006]; available from <http://www.protectionproject.org/pub.htm>.

²⁹³⁴ ILO Committee of Experts, *Direct Request, Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention (No. 182), Mozambique (ratification: 2003)*, [online] 2006 [cited September 1, 2006]; available from <http://www.ilo.org/iloex/cgi-lex/pdconv.pl?host=status01&textbase=iloeng&document=18>.

²⁹³⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Mozambique."

²⁹³⁶ Ibid.

²⁹³⁷ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Mozambique," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, London, 2004; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=787.

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The government disseminated information and provided education about the dangers of child labor. The public outreach effort includes the provision of training for the police on child prostitution and abuse (including pornography).²⁹³⁸

The Government of Mozambique is participating in a USD 3 million USDOL-funded 4-year program implemented by the American Institutes for Research. The project aims to reduce the number of child laborers in agriculture, domestic work, street work, and commercial sexual exploitation. Through this program, 2,600 children will be withdrawn or prevented from engaging in such activities.²⁹³⁹

In March 2006, the Civic Education Forum, a civil society organization, opened the first shelter for victims of trafficking. The shelter was built on land donated by the Moamba District Government to house and grow food for the residents.²⁹⁴⁰

²⁹³⁸ U.S. Department of State official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, February 1, 2007.

²⁹³⁹ American Institutes for Research, *RECLAIM: Reducing Exploitive Child Labor in Mozambique*, technical progress report, September 2006.

²⁹⁴⁰ U.S. Embassy- Maputo, *reporting*, February 27, 2007.

Namibia

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 1999, approximately 15.5 percent of boys and 13.9 percent of girls ages 5 to 14 were working in Namibia. The majority of working children were found in the agricultural sector (91.4 percent), followed by services (8.2 percent), manufacturing (0.4 percent), and other sectors (0.1 percent).²⁹⁵²

Children work in commercial and subsistence agriculture, the informal sector, and domestic service.²⁹⁵³ Children find self-

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 6-14 estimated as working in 1999:	14.7% ²⁹⁴¹
Minimum age for admission to work:	14 ²⁹⁴²
Age to which education is compulsory:	16 ²⁹⁴³
Free public education:	Yes ^{2944*}
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2003:	101% ²⁹⁴⁵
Net primary enrollment rate in 2003:	74% ²⁹⁴⁶
Percent of children 6-14 attending school in 1999:	91.6% ²⁹⁴⁷
As of 2002, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	88% ²⁹⁴⁸
Ratified Convention 138:	11/15/2000 ²⁹⁴⁹
Ratified Convention 182:	11/15/2000 ²⁹⁵⁰
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Yes, associated ²⁹⁵¹
*Must pay for school supplies and related items.	

²⁹⁴¹ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, March 1, 2007.

²⁹⁴² Government of Namibia, *Labor Act 2004*, (December 8, 2004), Chapter 2, Sections 3 and 4; available from <http://www.mol.gov.na/acts/Gaz3339.pdf>.

²⁹⁴³ Government of Namibia, *Constitution of the Republic of Namibia, 1990*, (February 1990); available from http://www.oefre.unibe.ch/law/icl/wa00000_.html. See also U.S. Department of State, "Namibia," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78749.htm>.

²⁹⁴⁴ Government of Namibia, *Constitution of the Republic of Namibia, 1990*, Article 20. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Namibia," Section 5.

²⁹⁴⁵ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

²⁹⁴⁶ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Rate. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

²⁹⁴⁷ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

²⁹⁴⁸ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Survival Rate to Grade 5. Total*, accessed December 18, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

²⁹⁴⁹ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, accessed September 25, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/docs/declAFpr.htm>.

²⁹⁵⁰ Ibid.

²⁹⁵¹ ILO-IPEC, *IPEC Action Against Child Labour; Highlights 2006*, Geneva, October 2006; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ipcc/prod/eng/20061019_Implementationreport_eng_Web.pdf.

²⁹⁵² UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

²⁹⁵³ Debie LeBeau, *Scoping Report on Child Labour in Namibia*, Discussion Document, commissioned by ILO-IPEC, Geneva, August 2003, Pages 29-33. See also U.S. Embassy- Windhoek, *reporting*, August 24, 2004.

employment in basket weaving, traditional beer making, selling fruits and vegetables, barbering, milking cows, and farming communal land.²⁹⁵⁴ To support their households, children also tend livestock, hunt, fish, and gather wild foods.²⁹⁵⁵ Children from Angola, Zambia, and other countries neighboring Namibia reportedly enter the country illegally and work on communal farms.²⁹⁵⁶ Children from poor rural households frequently assist extended family in urban centers with house cleaning, cooking, and child care, in exchange for food, shelter, and sometimes clothes and money.²⁹⁵⁷ Numerous HIV/AIDS orphans and other vulnerable children are reportedly engaged in commercial sexual exploitation.²⁹⁵⁸

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum age for employment at 14 years. The law also prohibits children under 16 years from working in any mine, industrial, or construction setting or underground, and prohibits children under 18 years from engaging in night work, which is defined as any work taking place between 8 p.m. and 7 a.m.²⁹⁵⁹ The Constitution protects children under 16 years from economic exploitation and states that they are not to be employed in any work that is likely to be hazardous; harmful to their health or physical, mental, spiritual, moral, or social development; or that would interfere with their education.²⁹⁶⁰

The Constitution prohibits slavery and forced labor.²⁹⁶¹ The law prohibits trafficking in persons,²⁹⁶² protects children from commercial sexual exploitation, and makes it an offense for any adult to solicit or entice a child to participate in prostitution.²⁹⁶³

The law allows for compulsory military service, but there is no military draft because individuals currently enlist in the armed forces in sufficient numbers. According to the Ministry of Defense policy, the minimum age for voluntary military service is 18 years.²⁹⁶⁴

The Ministry of Labor is responsible for enforcing child labor laws.²⁹⁶⁵ Ministry inspectors are trained to identify the worst forms of child labor and use existing enforcement mechanisms.²⁹⁶⁶ In 2006, the ministry continued its regular labor inspections, and five complaints were filed

²⁹⁵⁴ Debie LeBeau, *Scoping Report*, Pages 24-25.

²⁹⁵⁵ *Ibid.*, Page 25.

²⁹⁵⁶ *Ibid.*, Page 31.

²⁹⁵⁷ *Ibid.*, Page 32.

²⁹⁵⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Namibia," Section 5. See also ECPAT International CSEC Database, *Namibia*, accessed September 26, 2006; available from <http://www.ecpat.net/>. See also Debie LeBeau, *Scoping Report*, 35 and 37.

²⁹⁵⁹ Government of Namibia, *Labor Act 2004*, Chapter 2, Sections 3 and 4. See also Debie LeBeau, *Scoping Report*, 17.

²⁹⁶⁰ Government of Namibia, *Constitution of the Republic of Namibia*, 1990, Article 15.

²⁹⁶¹ *Ibid.*, Article 9.

²⁹⁶² U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Namibia," Section 5.

²⁹⁶³ Debie LeBeau, *Scoping Report*, 21.

²⁹⁶⁴ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Namibia," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, London, 2004; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=788.

²⁹⁶⁵ ILO, *The Effective Abolition of Child Labour: Review of Annual Reports under the Follow-up to the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work*, GB.280/3/2, Geneva, March 2001; available from <http://www.ilo.org/public/english/standards/relm/gb/docs/gb280/pdf/gb-3-2-abol.pdf>.

²⁹⁶⁶ U.S. Embassy- Windhoek, *reporting*, December 13, 2006, Para 3.

with the ministry regarding child labor.²⁹⁶⁷ The Women and Child Protection Units of the Namibian Police Force investigate cases involving abduction and child prostitution.²⁹⁶⁸ The Ministry of Women Affairs and Child Welfare is charged with ensuring that adequate care is provided to children, particularly orphans and other vulnerable children.²⁹⁶⁹

Existing national laws comprehensively address the worst forms of child labor in Namibia. The government, however, has difficulty with monitoring working conditions on tens of thousands of communal and commercial farms.²⁹⁷⁰

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Government of Namibia is working with ILO-IPEC to implement a USD 5 million USDOL-funded regional child labor project in Southern Africa, which includes activities in Namibia. Project activities in Namibia include conducting research on the nature and incidence of exploitive child labor and building the capacity of the government to address child labor issues.²⁹⁷¹ In collaboration with the government and NGOs, the American Institutes for Research is implementing a regional USD 9 million USDOL-funded project in Southern Africa to improve the quality of and access to basic and vocational education for children who are working or at risk of entering exploitive child labor.²⁹⁷² Over its lifetime, this project aims to prevent 10,000 children in five countries, including Namibia, from engaging in exploitive labor.²⁹⁷³ With the assistance of the Namibia Agricultural Union and the Namibia Farm Workers' Union, the Government of Namibia conducts public awareness campaigns on child labor.²⁹⁷⁴

²⁹⁶⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Namibia," Section 5.

²⁹⁶⁸ Government of Namibia, *Units within the Namibian Police Force*, [online] 2006 [cited October 11, 2006]; available from <http://www.nampol.gov.na/html/units.html>.

²⁹⁶⁹ Government of Namibia, *Statement by His Excellency Sam Nujoma, President of the Republic of Namibia, On the Occasion of the Official Launching of the National Policy on Orphans and Vulnerable Children*, [online] 2005 [cited October 11, 2006]; available from http://www.grnnet.gov.na/Nav_frames/News_launch.htm.

²⁹⁷⁰ U.S. Embassy- Windhoek, *reporting, December 13, 2006*, Para 6.

²⁹⁷¹ ILO-IPEC, *Supporting the Time-Bound Programme to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour in South Africa's Child Labour Action Programme and Laying the Basis for Concerted Action Against Worst Forms of Child Labour in Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia and Swaziland*, Geneva, September 30, 2004.

²⁹⁷² American Institutes for Research, *Reducing Exploitive Child Labor Southern Africa (RECLISA)*, project document, Washington, DC, September 8, 2005.

²⁹⁷³ *Ibid.*, page 22.

²⁹⁷⁴ U.S. Embassy- Windhoek, *reporting, December 13, 2006*, Para 7.

Nepal

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 1999, the majority of working children in Nepal were found in the agricultural sector (87.1 percent), followed by services (11 percent), manufacturing (1.3 percent) and other sectors (0.5 percent).²⁹⁸⁶

According to the National Child Labor Study, 50 types of paid economic activities outside the home have been recorded as involving children.²⁹⁸⁷

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 1999:	39.6% ²⁹⁷⁵
Minimum age for admission to work:	14 ²⁹⁷⁶
Age to which education is compulsory:	Not compulsory ²⁹⁷⁷
Free public education:	Yes ²⁹⁷⁸
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2005:	113% ²⁹⁷⁹
Net primary enrollment rate in 2003:	75% ²⁹⁸⁰
Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 1999:	69.2% ²⁹⁸¹
As of 2004, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	61% ²⁹⁸²
Ratified Convention 138:	5/30/1997 ²⁹⁸³
Ratified Convention 182:	1/3/2002 ²⁹⁸⁴
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Yes ²⁹⁸⁵

²⁹⁷⁵ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, March 1, 2007.

²⁹⁷⁶ Government of Nepal, *Children's Act*, (1992), Chapter 1, Section 2(a) and Chapter 2 Section 17 (1); available from http://www.labournepal.org/labourlaws/child_act.html. See also *Child Labor (Prohibition and Regulation) Act (No. 14)*, (2000), Chapter 2, Section 3(1); available from <http://natlex.ilo.org/txt/E00NPL01.htm>.

²⁹⁷⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Nepal," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78873.htm>. See also UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Concluding Observations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child: Nepal*, June 3, 2005; available from http://www.bayefsky.com/.pdf/nepal_t4_crc_39.pdf.

²⁹⁷⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Nepal," Section 5. See also Government of Nepal, *Constitution*, (November 9, 1990), Part 3, Article 18(2) and Part 4 Articles 26 (7-10); available from http://www.oefre.unibe.ch/law/icl/np00000_.html.

²⁹⁷⁹ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

²⁹⁸⁰ Ibid.

²⁹⁸¹ Ibid.

²⁹⁸² Ibid.

²⁹⁸³ APPLIS, *List of Ratifications of International Labour Conventions: Nepal*, accessed October 19, 2006; available from <http://webfusion.ilo.org/public/db/standards/normes/appl/appl-byCtry.cfm?lang=EN&CTYCHOICE=1840&hdroff=1>.

²⁹⁸⁴ Ibid.

²⁹⁸⁵ ILO, *IPEC Actions Against Child Labour: Highlights 2006*, Geneva, October 2006, 29; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ippec/prod/eng/20061018_Implementationreport_eng.pdf.

²⁹⁸⁶ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

²⁹⁸⁷ Kamal Banskota, Bikash Sharma, and Binod Shrestha, *Study on the Costs and Benefits of the Elimination of Child Labour in Nepal*, Study for the International Labour Office International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC), Kathmandu, 2002, 5-6.

The majority of children work in the informal sector.²⁹⁸⁸ Children work as domestic servants, porters, rag pickers, rock breakers, carpet factory workers, in mines, in restaurants, and in the transportation sector. Depending on the specific sector, children lack rest; work long hours; carry heavy loads; have ear, eye and skin disorders; have musculoskeletal problems; and are at risk of sexual exploitation.²⁹⁸⁹ Although bonded labor is outlawed in Nepal, the children of former bonded laborers known as *Kamaiyas* continue to work under forced labor conditions.²⁹⁹⁰

Children are exploited through prostitution, sex tourism, and trafficking.²⁹⁹¹ Nepal is a source country for children trafficked to India for sexual exploitation. Internal trafficking for commercial sexual exploitation also occurs.²⁹⁹² While the trafficking of children often leads to their sexual exploitation, there is also demand for trafficked boys and girls to work in the informal labor sector. Some reports indicate many children are trafficked to India to work in carpet factories, circuses, agriculture, road construction, domestic service, and begging. Boys are also trafficked to India to work in the embroidery industry.²⁹⁹³

In mid-2006, after massive demonstrations and strikes, the Government of Nepal and the Maoist insurgents agreed to a temporary cease-fire and a return to democracy. A comprehensive peace agreement was signed in November 2006.²⁹⁹⁴ While violence overall has declined, the security situation is still unstable and reforms are moving slowly.²⁹⁹⁵ Concern has been voiced by rights groups that the peace talks have ignored the disarming and

²⁹⁸⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Nepal," Section 5, 6d.

²⁹⁸⁹ World Education, *Combating Child Labor through Education in Nepal: The Brighter Futures Program Phase II*, project document, September 30, 2005, 5-8. See also ILO-IPEC, *Sustainable Elimination of Child Bonded Labour in Nepal Phase II*, project document, Geneva, 2006, 13. See also Occupational Safety and Health Project, *Study on Identification and Prioritisation of Hazardous Works, Work Processes and Workplaces Involving Child Labour*, Kathmandu, July 2006, Executive Summary. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Nepal," Section 5, 6d. See also Shiva Sharma, Manasa Thakurathi, Krishna Sapkota, Bishnu Devkota, and Brahma Rimal, *Nepal Situation of Domestic Child Labourers in Kathmandu: A Rapid Assessment*, ILO-IPEC, Geneva, November 2001, 31-32; available from <http://www.ilo.org/public/english/standards/ipecc/simpoc/nepal/ra/dcl.pdf>.

²⁹⁹⁰ U.S. Embassy- Kathmandu, *reporting*, August 19, 2005. See also ILO-IPEC, *Sustainable Elimination of Child Bonded Labour Phase II*, 6.

²⁹⁹¹ ECPAT International CSEC Database, *Nepal*, accessed September 22, 2006; available from www.ecpat.net. See also ECPAT International, *Situational Analysis Studies on Child Sex Tourism in Tourist Destinations of India, Nepal and Sri Lanka*, ECPAT International, Kathmandu, December 2003; available from http://www.ecpat.net/eng/Ecpat_inter/projects/sex_tourism/Executive%20Summary.Web1.pdf. See also Bal Kumar KC, Govind Subedi Yogendra Bahadur Gurung, and Keshab Prasad Adhikari, *Nepal Trafficking in Girls with Special Reference to Prostitution: A Rapid Assessment*, ILO-IPEC, Geneva, November 2001; available from <http://www.ilo.org/public/english/standards/ipecc/simpoc/nepal/ra/trafficking.pdf>.

²⁹⁹² U.S. Department of State, "Nepal (Tier 2)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/>. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Nepal," Section 5. See also U.S. Embassy-Kathmandu, *reporting* July 27, 2004.

²⁹⁹³ ILO-IPEC, *Cross Border Trafficking of Boys*, Kathmandu, March 2002, 2, 10; available from http://www.ilo.org/public/english/standards/ipecc/publ/download/boys_traffic02_en.pdf. See also Women's Rehabilitation Centre (WOREC), "Insight: A Publication Against Trafficking in Persons," 2003; available from <http://www.worecnepal.org/downloads/insight.pdf>. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Nepal," Section 5. See also U.S. Embassy-Kathmandu, *reporting*, July 27, 2004.

²⁹⁹⁴ International Crisis Group, *Nepal's Peace Agreement: Making it Work*, Kathmandu/Brussels, 2006, Executive Summary; available from <http://www.crisisgroup.org/home/index.cfm?l=1&id=4577>.

²⁹⁹⁵ ILO-IPEC, *The Timebound Program in Nepal- The IPEC Core TBP Project*, technical progress report, August 24, 2006.

rehabilitation of child soldiers leaving children affected emotionally and physically.²⁹⁹⁶ There are reports, both before and after signing the cease-fire agreement, that Maoist insurgents use children as soldiers, cooks, and messengers.²⁹⁹⁷ There is evidence that unaccompanied children are fleeing areas of civil unrest and are migrating to urban areas because of economic hardship and to avoid recruitment by Maoist insurgents.²⁹⁹⁸ A network of NGOs that monitor violations against children in armed conflict have documented cases of insurgents destroying schools and using school premises to abduct and recruit thousands of students and teachers from schools.²⁹⁹⁹

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum age for employment at 14 years.³⁰⁰⁰ The law prohibits children below 16 years from employment in occupations such as tourism, carpet weaving, factories, mines or other hazardous work harmful to their health or life. Children can work up to 6 hours a day and 36 hours a week, between 6 a.m. and 6 p.m.³⁰⁰¹ The law only covers formal sectors of employment, leaving the majority of children who work in the informal sector without legal protection.³⁰⁰² The Child Labor Act imposes a punishment of up to 3 months in prison for employing an underage child. Employing children in dangerous work or against their will is punishable with imprisonment for up to 1 year.³⁰⁰³ The Labor Act allows fines to be levied against employers in violation of labor laws.³⁰⁰⁴

The minimum age for voluntary military service is 18 years, but children can begin military training at 15.³⁰⁰⁵ The law prohibits trafficking in persons and provides for imprisonment for up to 20 years for violations.³⁰⁰⁶ The law also prohibits the use of children in immoral

²⁹⁹⁶ Integrated Regional Information Networks, *Nepal: Rights Activists Demand Rehabilitation of Child Soldiers*, [online] September 22, 2006 [cited September 22, 2006]; available from <http://www.irinnews.org/report.asp?ReportID=55125&SelectRegion=Asia>.

²⁹⁹⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Nepal," Section 1g, 5. See also Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Nepal," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, London, 2004; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=861. See also Integrated Regional Information Networks, *Nepal: Child Soldiers 'Still Recruited by Maoists'*, [online] January 12, 2007 [cited January 12, 2007]; available from <http://www.irinnews.org/print.asp?ReportID=57040>.

²⁹⁹⁸ U.S. Embassy- Kathmandu, *reporting*, August 19, 2005. See also Anand Tamang and John Frederick, *Asylums of Exploitation: Internally Displaced Children in the Worst Forms of Child Labour Due to the Armed Conflict in Nepal*, June 2006, 4.

²⁹⁹⁹ Watchlist on Children and Armed Conflict, *Nepal's Children Devastated by Raging Armed Conflict: Call for Immediate Action*, press release, January 26, 2005; available from <http://www.watchlist.org/reports/nepal.pr.20050120.php>. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Nepal," Section 1g. See also Tamang and Frederick, *Asylums of Exploitation*, 5.

³⁰⁰⁰ Government of Nepal, *Children's Act*, Chapter 1, Section 2(a), Chapter 2, Section 17 and Chapter 5, Section 47(1). See also *Child Labor (Prohibition and Regulation) Act (No. 14)*, Chapter 2, Sec 3.

³⁰⁰¹ U.S. Embassy- Kathmandu, *reporting*, August 20, 2004. See also *Child Labor (Prohibition and Regulation) Act (No. 14)*, Section 2(a), 3(1) and (2), Schedule. See also Government of Nepal, *Constitution*, Article 20. See also Government of Nepal, *Children's Act*, Article 17-18.

³⁰⁰² U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Nepal," Section 6d.

³⁰⁰³ *Child Labor (Prohibition and Regulation) Act (No. 14)*, Section 19(1) and (2).

³⁰⁰⁴ Government of Nepal, *Labor Act*, (1992), Section 55; available from <http://natlex.ilo.org/txt/E92NPL01.htm>.

³⁰⁰⁵ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Child Soldiers Global Report 2004."

³⁰⁰⁶ Government of Nepal, *Trafficking and Selling in Person Activity (Prohibition) Act*, Act No. 15 of 2043 Bikram Era, (1986), Articles 3, 8. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Nepal," Section 5.

professions, including taking and distributing immoral photographs.³⁰⁰⁷ The *Kamaiya* system, a form of bonded labor, was formally outlawed in 2002, and the law forbids keeping or employing any person as a bonded laborer and cancels any unpaid loans or bonds between creditors and *Kamaiya* laborers.³⁰⁰⁸ The law prohibits children from involvement in the sale, distribution, or trafficking of alcohol and drugs.³⁰⁰⁹

The law calls for establishment of a Child Labor Elimination Committee and Child Labor Elimination Fund, both of which have been established.³⁰¹⁰ The Central Child Welfare Board and Child Welfare Officers have the responsibility of enforcing child rights legislation.³⁰¹¹ The Ministry of Labor and Transport Management is responsible for enforcing child labor legislation and issues.³⁰¹² The U.S. Department of State reports that despite legal protections, resources devoted to enforcement of child labor laws are limited and that the Ministry of Labor employs too few inspectors to address the problem effectively.³⁰¹³

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Ministry of Labor and Transport Management of Nepal have revised a national Master Plan on Child Labor for 2004-2014. The revised plan calls for eliminating the worst forms of child labor by 2009 and all forms of child labor by 2014.³⁰¹⁴ The government is also currently implementing its Tenth Plan 2002-2007, its major development policy framework that details steps on eliminating the worst forms of child labor within 10 years.³⁰¹⁵ In support of these policies, USDOL funded a USD 5.5 million project from September 2001 through August 2006 to help the government implement its Timebound Program, targeting 7 worst forms of child labor. Targeted children were porters, rag pickers (recyclers), domestic workers, laborers in the carpet industry and in mines, bonded laborers, and children trafficked for sexual or labor exploitation. The project withdrew 8,750 children and prevented 3,928 children from

³⁰⁰⁷ Government of Nepal, *Children's Act*, Chapter 2, Section 16 (2) (3).

³⁰⁰⁸ Government of Nepal, *The Kamaiya Labor (Prohibition) Act*, (2002), Chapter 2, Chapter 3.

³⁰⁰⁹ Government of Nepal, *Children's Act*, Chapter 2, Sec 16(4). See also Government of Nepal, *The Narcotic Drugs (Control) Act*, 2033, (1976), Chapter 3, Sec 14. See also Government of Nepal, *Child Labor Info.*, submitted in response to U.S. Department of Labor Federal Registrar Notice (December 5, 2006) "Request for Information on Efforts by Certain Countries to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor", Kathmandu, December 25, 2006.

³⁰¹⁰ United Nations Economic and Social Council, *Implementation of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights: Second Period Reports Submitted by State Parties under Articles 16 and 17 of the Covenant*, August 7, 2006, 47; available from http://www.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cescr/docs/E_C12_NPL_2.doc. See also Government of Nepal, *Child Labor Info.*, Section 3, 5.

³⁰¹¹ Government of Nepal, *Children's Act*, Section 32 and 33.

³⁰¹² U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Nepal," Section 6d. See also Government of Nepal, *Child Labor Info.*, Section 3.

³⁰¹³ U.S. Embassy- Kathmandu, *reporting*, August 19, 2005.

³⁰¹⁴ Ministry of Labor and Transport Management, *National Master Plan on Child Labor, 2004-2014*, Kathmandu, 2004. See also United Nations Economic and Social Council, *Implementation of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights*, Executive Summary, 47. See also UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Concluding Observations of the Committee 2005*, para. 93.

³⁰¹⁵ Nepal National Planning Commission, *Tenth Plan (2002-2007)*, Kathmandu, 2002, Chapter 15.2; available from http://www.npc.gov.np/tenthplan/docs_in_english.htm. See also Government of Nepal, *Child Labor Info.*, Section 2.

exploitive labor.³⁰¹⁶ World Education and its local partner organizations continue to implement Phase 2 of the Brighter Futures Program, a USD 3.5 million child labor educational initiative program funded by USDOL, scheduled to run through September 2009. The project shares knowledge gained at the community level to inform government policies related to child labor and aims to withdraw 15,000 children and prevent 15,000 children from exploitive labor.³⁰¹⁷ Additionally, a USD 1.2 million project supported by the Government of Italy to eliminate child labor in the South Asia region was completed in December 2006.³⁰¹⁸

The government continues to take action in order to rescue and rehabilitate freed bonded laborers; however, distribution of land to former *Kamaiyas* has not been consistent with the level of need.³⁰¹⁹ In 2006, USDOL funded the USD 2 million second phase of a project to assist former child bonded laborers and their families. The project aims to withdraw 3,000 children and prevent 6,600 children from exploitive labor³⁰²⁰

The government has a National Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking and has established a National Coordination Committee with a National Task Force that provides policy direction and coordinates activities on child trafficking.³⁰²¹ The government, with the support of NGOs and international organizations, implemented awareness-raising campaigns on trafficking in persons, and a trafficking education campaign for girls in 19 districts.³⁰²² Nepal was part of a USDOL funded USD 3 million regional project that ended in March 2006 to combat trafficking in Asia. The project withdrew 367 children and prevented 10,378 children from trafficking throughout the region.³⁰²³

The Government of Nepal is currently implementing its Education for All National Plan of Action (NPA), which aims to expand education access, provide alternative schooling, and provide non-formal education alternatives. Child laborers are one of the target groups

³⁰¹⁶ Ministry of Labor and Transport Management, *National Master Plan on Child Labor, 2004-2014*. See also ILO-IPEC, *The Timebound Program in Nepal - The IPEC Core TBP Project*, technical progress report, Kathmandu, September 2003. See also ILO-IPEC, *Sustainable Elimination of Child Bonded Labour Phase II*. See also U.S. Department of Labor, *Supporting the Time-Bound Program on the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor in Nepal*, [ILAB Technical Cooperation Summary] September 2006.

³⁰¹⁷ U.S. Department of Labor, *Combating Child Labor through Education in Nepal: The Brighter Futures Program Phase II*, ILAB Technical Cooperation Project Summary, Washington, D.C., 2005. See also World Education, *Combating Child Labor through Education in Nepal: The Brighter Futures Program Phase II*, technical progress report, Boston, September 2006.

³⁰¹⁸ ILO-IPEC official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, March 1, 2007.

³⁰¹⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Nepal," Section 6c.

³⁰²⁰ ILO-IPEC, *Sustainable Elimination of Child Bonded Labour Phase II*, 44.

³⁰²¹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Nepal," Section 5. See also Ministry of Women, Children, and Social Welfare, *National Plan of Action Against Trafficking in Children and Women for Sexual and Labour Exploitation*, Kathmandu, 2001, 8.

³⁰²² U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Nepal," Section 5.

³⁰²³ U.S. Department of Labor, *Combating Child Trafficking for Labor and Sexual Exploitation (TICSA Phase II)*, ILAB Technical Cooperation Project Summary, Washington, DC, 2002. See also ILO-IPEC, *Combating Child Trafficking for Labor and Sexual Exploitation (TICSA Phase II)*, project document, Geneva, February 2002. See also ILO-IPEC, *Combating Child Trafficking for Labor and Sexual Exploitation (TICSA Phase II)*, technical progress report, Geneva, March 2006.

identified in the plan.³⁰²⁴ USAID is providing funding for several programs in Nepal to reduce the vulnerability of children. These include scholarship programs for girls from disadvantaged and conflict-affected families; vocational training for youth and displaced and disadvantaged persons; and an anti-trafficking program targeted at girls exploited by, and at risk of, being trafficked.³⁰²⁵

³⁰²⁴ Ministry of Education and Sports, *EFA National Plan of Action: Nepal*, Kathmandu, April 2003; available from http://portal.unesco.org/education/en/ev.php-URL_ID=30125&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html.

³⁰²⁵ USAID, *Operational Plan FY2006*, June 12, 2006, 9-10,13; available from http://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/PDACH275.pdf.

Nicaragua

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2001, approximately 15.7 percent of boys and 5.8 percent of girls ages 6 to 14 were working in Nicaragua. The majority of working children were found in the agricultural sector (62.5 percent), followed by services (31.8 percent), manufacturing (5.3 percent), and other sectors (0.4 percent).³⁰³⁷ Children work in the

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 6-14 estimated as working in 2001:	10.9% ³⁰²⁶
Minimum age for admission to work:	14 ³⁰²⁷
Age to which education is compulsory:	12 ³⁰²⁸
Free public education:	Yes ³⁰²⁹
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:	112% ³⁰³⁰
Net primary enrollment rate in 2004:	88% ³⁰³¹
Percent of children 6-14 attending school in 2001:	85% ³⁰³²
As of 2003, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	59% ³⁰³³
Ratified Convention 138:	11/2/1981 ³⁰³⁴
Ratified Convention 182:	11/6/2000 ³⁰³⁵
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Yes ³⁰³⁶

³⁰²⁶ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, March 1, 2007.

³⁰²⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Nicaragua," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 6d; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78899.htm>. See also *Ley núm. 474 por la que se dicta la Ley de reforma al Título VI, Libro Primero del Código de Trabajo*, (October 21, 2003), Article 2; available from http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/natlex_browse.details?p_lang=en&p_isn=67286.

³⁰²⁸ Government of Nicaragua, *Constitución de Nicaragua*, (1987, with 1995 reforms), Article 121; available from <http://www.georgetown.edu/pdba/Constitutions/Nica/nica95.html>. See also U.S. Embassy- Managua, *reporting*, December 19, 2006.

³⁰²⁹ Government of Nicaragua, *Constitución de Nicaragua*, Article 121. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Nicaragua," Section 5.

³⁰³⁰ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

³⁰³¹ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Rate. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

³⁰³² UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

³⁰³³ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Survival Rate to Grade 5. Total*, accessed December 18, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

³⁰³⁴ ILOLEX, *C138 Minimum Age Convention, 1973*, accessed October 12, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/cgi-lex/pdconv.pl?host=status01&textbase=iloeng&document=4971&chapter=19&query=C138%40ref&highlight=&querytype=bool>.

³⁰³⁵ ILOLEX, *C182 Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999*, accessed October 12, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/cgi-lex/pdconv.pl?host=status01&textbase=iloeng&document=6834&chapter=19&query=C182%40ref&highlight=&querytype=bool>.

³⁰³⁶ ILO-IPEC, *IPEC Action Against Child Labour Highlights 2006*, Geneva, February, 2007; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ipcc/prod/eng/20070228_Implementationreport_en_Web.pdf.

³⁰³⁷ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

production of such crops as coffee, corn, sugar, and tobacco.³⁰³⁸ Children also work in street sales and personal services, such as domestic service in third-party homes. They can also be found working in markets, restaurants and hotels. A small percentage of children engage in mining, stone quarrying, construction, and transport.³⁰³⁹ The majority of children work in the informal sector, and some are engaged in garbage dump scavenging.³⁰⁴⁰

Child prostitution and sex tourism are problems in Nicaragua.³⁰⁴¹ Nicaragua is a source and transit country for children trafficked for sexual exploitation.³⁰⁴² Children are trafficked within Nicaragua from rural to urban areas.³⁰⁴³ Children from poor rural areas between the ages of 13 and 18 are among the most vulnerable to trafficking.³⁰⁴⁴ The most prevalent form of internal trafficking is believed to be the commercial sexual exploitation of minors.³⁰⁴⁵ Children are also trafficked from Nicaragua to other parts of Central America to work in bars and nightclubs, with Guatemala as the primary destination for girls engaged in prostitution.³⁰⁴⁶

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum age for employment at 14 years.³⁰⁴⁷ A ministerial resolution also specifically prohibits children under 14 from work in export processing zones, while another prohibits contracting children under 16 for work at sea.³⁰⁴⁸

Children 14 to 16 years cannot work without parental permission.³⁰⁴⁹ Adolescents 14 to 18 cannot work more than 6 hours a day or 30 hours a week. Adolescents are also prohibited from engaging in work that endangers their health and safety, such as work in mines, garbage dumps, and night entertainment venues, and work that may interfere with schooling.³⁰⁵⁰ The law provides for fines for violations of child labor laws. The National Commission for the Progressive Eradication of Child Labor and Protection of the Young Worker (CNEPTI) receives revenues from fines.³⁰⁵¹

³⁰³⁸ U.S. Embassy- Managua, *reporting, December 19, 2006.*

³⁰³⁹ Ministry of Labor, ILO-IPEC, and CNEPTI, *National Report on the Results of the Child and Adolescent Labour Survey in Nicaragua*, April 2003, 29. See also U.S. Embassy- Managua, *reporting, December 19, 2006.* See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Nicaragua," Section 6d.

³⁰⁴⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Nicaragua," Section 6d.

³⁰⁴¹ *Ibid.*, section 6d. See also U.S. Department of State, "Nicaragua (Tier 2)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/65989.htm>. See also U.S. Embassy- Managua, *reporting, March 27, 2007.*

³⁰⁴² U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Nicaragua," Section 5.

³⁰⁴³ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Nicaragua."

³⁰⁴⁴ U.S. Embassy- Managua, *reporting, March 27, 2007.*

³⁰⁴⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Nicaragua."

³⁰⁴⁶ *Ibid.* See also U.S. Embassy- Managua, *reporting, March 27, 2007.*

³⁰⁴⁷ *Ley núm. 474*, Article 2. See also *Código de la Niñez y la Adolescencia, Ley. No. 287*, (May 1998), Article 73; available from <http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/docs/WEBTEXT/55822/66754/S98NIC01.htm>.

³⁰⁴⁸ Ministry of Labor, ILO-IPEC, and CNEPTI, *National Report on the Results of the Child and Adolescent Labour Survey*, 17.

³⁰⁴⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Nicaragua," Section 6d.

³⁰⁵⁰ *Ley núm. 474*, Articles 3-5.

³⁰⁵¹ U.S. Embassy- Managua, *reporting, December 19, 2006.* See also *Ley núm. 474*, Article 6. See also NATLEX, *Decreto núm. 22-97 de creación de la Comisión Nacional para la erradicación progresiva del trabajo infantil y la protección del menor trabajador*, 1997; available from

The Constitution prohibits forced labor, slavery, and indentured servitude, although children are not specifically mentioned.³⁰⁵² The Constitution was amended in 1995 to prohibit military conscription. The minimum legal age for entry into the armed forces is unclear.³⁰⁵³

Prostitution is legal for individuals 14 years and older, but the promotion and procurement of prostitution is prohibited by law. The law establishes a penalty of 4 to 8 years of imprisonment for those found guilty of recruiting children under 16 years into prostitution, and 12 years of imprisonment for recruiting children under 12 years.³⁰⁵⁴ Promoting, filming, or selling child pornography is prohibited.³⁰⁵⁵ The government has approved a law calling for the criminalization of sex tourism, which imposes a penalty of imprisonment of 5 to 7 years for convicted offenders.³⁰⁵⁶ Trafficking in persons is penalized with 4 to 10 years of imprisonment.³⁰⁵⁷

The Ministry of Labor is responsible for enforcing child labor laws.³⁰⁵⁸ Within the Ministry of Labor's Inspector General's Office, there is a Child Labor Inspector's Office; however, the Office does not have its own inspectors.³⁰⁵⁹ The country's 72 general inspectors and 18 hygiene and safety inspectors are responsible for carrying out regular inspections throughout the country to monitor labor conditions, including child labor violations.³⁰⁶⁰ The Ministry of Government is responsible for law enforcement in the country, operates an anti-trafficking office, and leads the National Coalition against Trafficking in Persons.³⁰⁶¹ The Office of the National Prosecutor, through its specialized Women and Children's unit, is responsible for prosecuting trafficking cases.³⁰⁶² The Office of the Human Rights Prosecutor also has separate Special Prosecutors for Women, Children, and Adolescents who investigate trafficking cases.³⁰⁶³ However, the U.S. Department of State notes that the laws addressing trafficking in persons do not protect all adolescents under 18 years and that government progress in victim assistance, protection and prosecution of traffickers was limited. In addition, the deficit of

http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/natlex_browse.details?p_lang=en&p_country=NIC&p_classification=04&p_origin=COUNTRY.

³⁰⁵² *Constitución Política de la República de Nicaragua* (1987, with 1995, 2002 and 2005 reforms), Articles 40-44; available from <http://pdba.georgetown.edu/Constitutions/Nica/nica05.html>. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Nicaragua," Section 6c.

³⁰⁵³ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Nicaragua," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, London, 2004; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=833.

³⁰⁵⁴ *Código Penal de la República de Nicaragua*, (1974); available from http://www.unifr.ch/derechopenal/legislacion/ni/cp_nicaragua3.pdf. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Nicaragua," Sections 5 and 6d.

³⁰⁵⁵ *Código de la Niñez y la Adolescencia*, Article 69.

³⁰⁵⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Nicaragua," Section 5.

³⁰⁵⁷ *Código Penal*, Article 203.

³⁰⁵⁸ Ministry of Labor, *Política Institucional*, [online] [cited August 16, 2006]; available from <http://www.mitrab.gob.ni/mision.html>. See also U.S. Department of State, "Nicaragua," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2005*, Washington, DC, March 8, 2006, Section 6d; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2005/61734.htm>.

³⁰⁵⁹ U.S. Embassy- Managua, *reporting, August 12, 2004*.

³⁰⁶⁰ *Ibid.*

³⁰⁶¹ U.S. Embassy- Managua, *reporting, July 26, 2005*. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Nicaragua," Section 5.

³⁰⁶² U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Nicaragua," Section 5. See also U.S. Embassy- Managua, *reporting, March 27, 2007*.

³⁰⁶³ U.S. Embassy- Managua, *reporting, March 27, 2007*.

data collection and registration of trafficking of persons cases and loose immigration controls between the borders of Nicaragua, El Salvador, Honduras, and Guatemala further weaken government efforts to pursue enforcement actions against traffickers effectively.³⁰⁶⁴

In October 2006, the Ministry of Labor published the government's annual list of 49 types of work that are harmful to the health, safety, and morals of children, as required under ILO Convention 182.³⁰⁶⁵

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

On April 4, 2006, the government's Policy on Special Protection for Children and Adolescents was enacted. The policy includes special protections for victims of commercial sexual exploitation and trafficking in persons.³⁰⁶⁶ The government's National Council for the Integral Attention and Protection of Children and Adolescents is responsible for a 5-year National Plan against the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (2003-2008) and a 10-year National Action Plan for Children and Adolescents.³⁰⁶⁷

Through June of 2006, the Government of Nicaragua participated in a 3-year, USD 3 million USDOL-funded ILO-IPEC Central America regional project to combat hazardous child labor in agriculture. At the regional level, the project withdrew 2,309 children from hazardous agriculture and prevented 2,693 others from becoming engaged in similar activities.³⁰⁶⁸ The government continues to participate in a 4-year, USD 8.4 million regional project to combat the commercial sexual exploitation of children. The project aims to withdraw and prevent 580 children from commercial sexual exploitation in Nicaragua.³⁰⁶⁹ The government also participated in a USD 500,000 ILO-IPEC project to combat child domestic work funded by the Government of the Netherlands, which ended in February 2006.³⁰⁷⁰ As part of an effort to build capacity to improve labor law compliance among the CAFTA-DR partners, USDOL is

³⁰⁶⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Nicaragua." See also U.S. Embassy- Managua, *reporting*, March 27, 2007.

³⁰⁶⁵ U.S. Embassy- Managua, *reporting*, March 27, 2007.

³⁰⁶⁶ ILO-IPEC, "Stop the Exploitation" ("Alto a la explotación") *Contribution to the Prevention and Elimination of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children in Central America, Panama and the Dominican Republic*, technical progress report, RLA/02/P51 - 05/52/USA, September 13, 2006, 2.

³⁰⁶⁷ U.S. Embassy- Managua, *reporting*, December 19, 2006. See also CONAPINA, *Plan Nacional Contra La Explotación Sexual Comercial de Niñas, Niños y Adolescentes 2003-2008*, November 2003. See also UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Written Replies by the Government of Nicaragua Concerning the List of Issues (CRC/C/Q/NIC/3) Formulated by the Committee on the Rights of the Child in Connection with Consideration of the Third Periodic Report of Nicaragua (CRC/C/125/Add.3)*, CRC/C/RESP/83, prepared by Government of Nicaragua, pursuant to Article 44 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, April 18 2005, 54; available from [http://www.unhchr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/898586b1dc7b4043c1256a450044f331/3faa16ea862e67b2c125701f00457e2f/\\$FILE/CRC_C_RESP_83\(E\).doc](http://www.unhchr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/898586b1dc7b4043c1256a450044f331/3faa16ea862e67b2c125701f00457e2f/$FILE/CRC_C_RESP_83(E).doc).

³⁰⁶⁸ ILO-IPEC, *Prevention and Progressive Elimination of Child Labour in Agriculture in Central America, Panama and the Dominican Republic (Phase II)*, project document, RLA/03/P50/USA, September 17, 2003. See also USDOL, *ILAB Technical Cooperation Project Summary: Prevention and Progressive Elimination of Child Labor in Agriculture in Central America, Panama and the Dominican Republic (Phase II)*.

³⁰⁶⁹ ILO-IPEC, *Contribution to the Prevention and Elimination of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children in Central America, Panama and the Dominican Republic*, addendum, Geneva, September 2005.

³⁰⁷⁰ ILO-IPEC official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, November 8, 2005.

providing USD 2.85 million for a project to strengthen outreach efforts in the agriculture sector in the region, where child labor is a serious problem.³⁰⁷¹

In coordination with the Nicaraguan government, CARE-USA is implementing a USD 5.5 million regional project funded by USDOL to combat exploitive child labor through the provision of quality basic education. The project aims to withdraw and prevent 2,984 children and adolescents from exploitive child labor in the region.³⁰⁷² The government also implements a project to prevent and eradicate child labor in small-scale mining, and another to combat child labor in the tobacco-growing sector.³⁰⁷³

Through its Program for Children and Adolescents at Risk, the Ministry of Family works to remove children from work, provide counseling to children and their families, and coordinate with other government agencies, the police, and NGOs to provide services.³⁰⁷⁴ The ministry also operates a “traffic lights” project to assist children who perform odd jobs around traffic intersections.³⁰⁷⁵ In addition, the Ministry is responsible for the operation of a shelter that provides services to minor victims of commercial sexual exploitation, and a national hotline for victims of abuse and exploitation.³⁰⁷⁶

The Ministries of Government, Education, Tourism, and the Women’s Division of the National Police continued to implement trafficking awareness campaigns specifically for border police, immigration officials, students, teachers, the press and the tourism industry.³⁰⁷⁷ The government also sponsored an education program in the city of Granada with the Ministry of Tourism to train hotel owners and taxi drivers to discourage the commercial sexual exploitation of children.³⁰⁷⁸ Also, the Nicaraguan branch of INTERPOL collaborates with its counterparts in Guatemala, El Salvador, and in other countries in the region.³⁰⁷⁹

³⁰⁷¹ Social Accountability International, *Project CULTIVAR: Advancing Labor Rights in Agriculture in Central America*, project document, New York, August 8, 2007.

³⁰⁷² CARE USA, *APRENDO Project: Combating Exploitive Child Labor Through Education in Central America (Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua) and the Dominican Republic*, project document, 2004.

³⁰⁷³ UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Written Replies by the Government of Nicaragua Concerning the List of Issues (CRC/C/Q/NIC/3)*, 56.

³⁰⁷⁴ U.S. Embassy- Managua, *reporting*, July 26, 2005.

³⁰⁷⁵ UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Written Replies by the Government of Nicaragua Concerning the List of Issues (CRC/C/Q/NIC/3)*, 56.

³⁰⁷⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Nicaragua." See also U.S. Embassy- Managua, *reporting*, March 27, 2007.

³⁰⁷⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Nicaragua." See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Nicaragua," Section 5.

³⁰⁷⁸ U.S. Embassy- Managua, *reporting*, March 27, 2007.

³⁰⁷⁹ *Ibid.*

Niger

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2000, approximately 71.8 percent of boys and 60.6 percent of girls ages 5 to 14 were working in Niger.³⁰⁹¹ Children work in the agricultural, commercial, and artisanal sectors often in family businesses.³⁰⁹² Children in rural areas work on family farms, gathering water or firewood, pounding grain, tending animals, or working in rice fields.³⁰⁹³ Children work in hazardous conditions in mines and quarries breaking rock;

transporting heavy loads in head-pans; washing and processing gold, which may expose

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 2000:	66.2% ³⁰⁸⁰
Minimum age for admission to work:	14 ³⁰⁸¹
Age to which education is compulsory:	7-12 ³⁰⁸²
Free public education:	Yes ³⁰⁸³
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:	45% ³⁰⁸⁴
Net primary enrollment rate in 2004:	39% ³⁰⁸⁵
Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 2000:	31.1% ³⁰⁸⁶
As of 2003, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	74% ³⁰⁸⁷
Ratified Convention 138:	12/4/1978 ³⁰⁸⁸
Ratified Convention 182:	10/23/2000 ³⁰⁸⁹
ILO-IPEC Participating Country:	Yes, associated ³⁰⁹⁰

³⁰⁸⁰ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, March 1, 2007.

³⁰⁸¹ International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU), *Internationally Recognised Core Labour Standards in Niger and Senegal*, ICFTU, Geneva, September 24, 2003; available from <http://www.icftu.org/www/pdf/nigersenegalclsreport.pdf>.

³⁰⁸² UNESCO, "Regional Overview: Sub-Saharan Africa," in *Global Monitoring Report 2003/4: Gender and Education for All*, Paris, 2004; available from http://www.unesco.org/education/efa_report/zoom_regions_pdf/ssafrica.pdf.

³⁰⁸³ U.S. Department of State, "Niger," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78750.htm>.

³⁰⁸⁴ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

³⁰⁸⁵ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Rate. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

³⁰⁸⁶ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Survival Rate to Grade 5. Total*, accessed December 18, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

³⁰⁸⁷ Ibid.

³⁰⁸⁸ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, accessed October 23, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/newratframeE.htm>.

³⁰⁸⁹ Ibid.

³⁰⁹⁰ ILO-IPEC, *IPEC Action Against Child Labour; Highlights 2006*, Geneva, October 2006; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ipcc/prod/eng/20070228_Implementationreport_en_Web.pdf.

³⁰⁹¹ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

³⁰⁹² U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Niger," Section 6d.

³⁰⁹³ Ibid.

children to mercury; and crushing and hoisting ore.³⁰⁹⁴ Children also perform domestic work, guard cars, shine shoes, and work as porters.³⁰⁹⁵ Some boys, whose parents send them from rural areas to cities to attend Koranic schools, are forced by their schoolmasters or *marabouts* to beg on the streets or do manual labor.³⁰⁹⁶

Traditional forms of caste-based servitude, including of children, still exist in isolated parts of Niger.³⁰⁹⁷ Children's caste standing often determines the sort of work in which they engage. Depending on the region, children may be involved in agricultural work; cattle rearing; domestic service; or leather, wood, or iron working.³⁰⁹⁸

Niger serves as a source, transit, and destination country for children trafficked for forced labor, including commercial sexual exploitation and domestic service. Children are trafficked internally to work in mines, manual labor, and domestic service, as well as for commercial sexual exploitation and begging.³⁰⁹⁹ Some children are trafficked to Niger for exploitive labor from Benin, Burkina Faso, Gabon, Ghana, Mali, Nigeria, and Togo. Children are trafficked from Niger to North Africa, Europe, and the Middle East for sexual exploitation and domestic service.³¹⁰⁰

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum age for employment at 14 years. Children 12 to 14 may work with special authorization for only 2 hours per day or 4 hours during school vacations. Children 14 to 18 may not work for more than 4.5 hours per day and are restricted to certain types of employment.³¹⁰¹ The law also requires that employers guarantee minimum sanitary working conditions for children.³¹⁰²

³⁰⁹⁴ ILO-IPEC, *Prevention and Elimination of Child Labor in Mining in West Africa*, project document, Geneva, September 30, 2005, 2.

³⁰⁹⁵ UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Examen des rapports présentés par les états parties en application de l'article 44 de la convention, rapports initiaux devant être soumis en 1992, Niger*, CRC/C/3/Add.29/Rev. 1, Geneva, October 2001, para. 381.

³⁰⁹⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Niger," Section 5. See also U.S. Embassy- Niamey, *reporting*, January 3, 2007.

³⁰⁹⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Niger," Section 6c, U.S. Embassy- Niamey, *reporting*, August 26, 2005. See also Anti-Slavery International & Association Timidira, *Slavery in Niger: Historical, Legal and Contemporary Perspectives*, ed. Galy Kadir Abdelkader (London: Anti-Slavery International, 2004), 14, 82; available from <http://www.antislavery.org/homepage/resources/publication.htm>.

³⁰⁹⁸ U.S. Embassy- Niamey, E-mail communication to USDOL official, July 31, 2006.

³⁰⁹⁹ U.S. Embassy- Niamey, *reporting Jan 3, 2007*, U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Niger," Section 6c.

³¹⁰⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Niger," Section 6c. See also U.S. Department of State, "Niger (Tier 2)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/65989.htm>.

³¹⁰¹ International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU), *Core Labour Standards in Niger and Senegal*, 6.

³¹⁰² U.S. Department of State, "Niger," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2005*, Washington, DC, March 8, 2006, Section 6d; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2005/61585.htm>, U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Niger." See also U.S. Embassy- Niamey, *reporting Jan 3, 2007*.

The Labor Code prohibits forced and bonded labor, except for work by legally convicted prisoners.³¹⁰³ Nigerien law also outlaws all forms of slavery and provides for a prison sentence of 30 years for violations.³¹⁰⁴ There are no laws against trafficking. The law criminalizes the procurement or incitement of a minor for the purpose of prostitution, and establishes fines and prison terms of 2 to 5 years for violations.³¹⁰⁵ Nigerien law also punishes the parents of minors or any person encouraging minors to beg and who profit from their begging by 6 months to 1 year of imprisonment.³¹⁰⁶ The minimum age for conscription into the military is 18.³¹⁰⁷

The Ministry of Labor is charged with enforcing labor laws, but has very limited resources to do so.³¹⁰⁸ The Ministry of Labor had approximately 30 inspectors deployed nationwide who are responsible for enforcing all elements of the Labor Code, including investigating cases of child labor.³¹⁰⁹

The Ministers of Interior, Justice, and the Promotion of Women and Protection of Children share the responsibility for combating trafficking in persons.³¹¹⁰

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Ministry of Labor continued its work with ILO-IPEC and UNICEF on a program to determine the extent of the country's child labor problem.³¹¹¹ The Ministry of Mines is cooperating in a USDOL-funded USD 3 million regional project implemented by ILO-IPEC to withdraw 1,500 children from artisanal gold mining and prevent 2,500 children from exploitive work in two mining areas in Niger and Burkina Faso.³¹¹²

The Government of Niger is also participating in a USDOL-funded, USD 2 million Child Labor Education Initiative project implemented by Catholic Relief Services to combat child labor through education. This 4-year project targets 3,200 children from exploitive work in industries such as mining; it also aims to limit children's exposure to agricultural work, cattle-

³¹⁰³ International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU), *Core Labour Standards in Niger and Senegal*, 8. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Niger," Section 6d.

³¹⁰⁴ Integrated Regional Information Networks, "Niger: Slavery - an unbroken chain", IRINnews.org, [online], March 21, 2005 [cited October 23, 2006]; available from http://www.irinnews.org/S_report.asp?ReportID=46200&SelectRegion=West_Africa. See also Amnesty International, *Niger Human Rights Concerns*, [online] [cited October 23, 2006]; available from <http://www.amnestyusa.org/countries/niger/index.do>.

³¹⁰⁵ Government of Niger, *Criminal Code: Chapter VIII- Offenses Against Public Morals*, (Previously online from The Protection Project Legal Library), Articles 292-294. See also U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Niger."

³¹⁰⁶ U.S. Embassy- Niamey, *reporting Jan 3, 2007*.

³¹⁰⁷ U.S. Embassy- Niamey, E-mail communication to USDOL official, October 04, 2005.

³¹⁰⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2005: Niger," Section 6d.

³¹⁰⁹ U.S. Embassy- Niamey, E-mail communication dated July 31, 2006, U.S. Embassy- Niamey, *reporting Jan 3, 2007*.

³¹¹⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Niger," Section 5.

³¹¹¹ *Ibid.*, Section 6d.

³¹¹² ILO-IPEC, *Regional Mining, project document*, 36.

breeding activities, and domestic service.³¹¹³ The government participates in a regional ILO-IPEC project funded by France to combat child labor in Francophone Africa.³¹¹⁴

In July 2006, Niger was 1 of 24 countries to adopt the Multilateral Cooperation Agreement to Combat Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children, in West and Central Africa and the Joint Plan of Action Against Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children in the West and Central African Regions.³¹¹⁵ As part of the Multilateral Cooperative Agreement, the governments agreed to put into place the child trafficking monitoring system developed by the U.S. Department of Labor-funded, ILO-IPEC LUTRENA project; to ensure that birth certificates and travel identity documents cannot easily be falsified or altered; to provide assistance to each other in the investigation, arrest and prosecution of trafficking offenders; to protect, rehabilitate, and reintegrate trafficking victims; and to improve educational systems, vocational training and apprenticeships.³¹¹⁶

The government worked with UNICEF and local NGOs to prevent trafficking. Efforts included the training of police and border security officers to identify victims of trafficking,³¹¹⁷ and facilitating the rehabilitation and repatriation of rescued children. The police also worked with local truckers' unions to organize homeward transportation for trafficking victims.³¹¹⁸

³¹¹³ U.S. Department of Labor, *Combating Exploitive Child Labor through Education in Niger*, project document, 2007, 20.

³¹¹⁴ ILO-IPEC Geneva official, E-mail communication USDOL official, November 16, 2006.

³¹¹⁵ ECOWAS and ECASS, *Multilateral Cooperation Agreement to Combat Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, in West and Central Africa*, Abuja, July 7, 2006.

³¹¹⁶ ILO-IPEC, *Combating the Trafficking of Children for Labour Exploitation in West and Central Africa (LUTRENA)*, technical progress report, Washington, DC, September 1, 2006.

³¹¹⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Niger," Section 5.

³¹¹⁸ U.S. Embassy - Niamey, *reporting*, January 10, 2007.

Nigeria

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Child labor in Nigeria is prevalent, especially in the informal sectors.³¹³⁰ Children work on family and commercial farms and as domestic servants. They also work in fishing, mining, quarrying, the

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 2003:	Unavailable ³¹¹⁹
Minimum age for admission to work:	15 ³¹²⁰
Age to which education is compulsory:	6-12 ³¹²¹
Free public education:	Yes ^{3122*}
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:	99% ³¹²³
Net primary enrollment rate in 2004:	60% ³¹²⁴
Percent of children 5-14 attending school:	Unavailable ³¹²⁵
As of 2003, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	73% ³¹²⁶
Ratified Convention 138:	10/2/2002 ³¹²⁷
Ratified Convention 182:	10/2/2002 ³¹²⁸
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Yes, associated ³¹²⁹
* In practice, must pay for school fees.	

³¹¹⁹UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, October 7, 2005.

³¹²⁰U.S. Department of State, "Nigeria," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, March 6, 2007, Section 6d; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrprt/2006/78751.htm>., See also *Nigeria Labour Act*, (1974); available from <http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/docs/WEBTEXT/42156/64980/E7RNGA01.htm#p3>., Article 59.

³¹²¹UNESCO, "Regional Overview: Sub-Saharan Africa," in *Global Monitoring Report 2003/4: Gender and Education for All*, Paris, 2004; available from http://www.unesco.org/education/efa_report/zoom_regions_pdf/ssafrica.pdf. See also Government of Nigeria, *National Policy on Education*, NERDC, Lagos, November 2004., 13. Nigerian Universal Basic Education Commission (UBEC), *Some Information on Universal Basic Education by UBEC*, 2005. 3.

³¹²²*Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria*, (1999); available from <http://www.nigeria-law.org/ConstitutionOfTheFederalRepublicOfNigeria.htm>.

³¹²³UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

³¹²⁴UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Rate. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

³¹²⁵UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Survival Rate to Grade 5. Total*, accessed December 18, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

³¹²⁶Ibid.

³¹²⁷ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, accessed October 18, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/cgi-lex/ratifice.pl?Nigeria>.

³¹²⁸Ibid.

³¹²⁹ILO-IPEC, *IPEC Action Against Child Labor - Highlights 2006*, Geneva, 2006; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ippec/prod/eng/20070228_Implementationreport_en_Web.pdf.

³¹³⁰Government of Nigeria, *Draft National Policy on Child Labor*, 2006, 3.,

transportation industry, construction, and garment manufacturing.³¹³¹ Children also work in carpentry, masonry, hairdressing, weaving, dyeing, tailoring, carving, and tanning.³¹³² In urban areas, children work as street peddlers, shoe-shiners, load carriers, car washers, scavengers, and beggars.³¹³³

Children in Nigeria are engaged in the drug trade.³¹³⁴ Commercial sexual exploitation of children is also common in many cities in Nigeria, including the Niger Delta regions of Port Harcourt, Bonny, and Akwa Ebom, and large cities, like Lagos.³¹³⁵ The Government of Nigeria reports children being subjected to forced labor and armed conflict.³¹³⁶

Nigeria is a source, transit, and destination country for child trafficking.³¹³⁷ Children are reported to be trafficked for involuntary domestic and agricultural labor as well as street peddling, within the country and to countries in West and Central Africa. Children from Benin and other West African countries are also trafficked to Nigeria for forced labor.³¹³⁸ Within the country, boys have been trafficked primarily to work as bonded laborers, street peddlers, and beggars, while girls have been trafficked for domestic service, street peddling, and commercial sexual exploitation.³¹³⁹

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum age for employment at 15 years, except for light agricultural, horticultural, or domestic work performed for the family.³¹⁴⁰ The minimum age for apprenticeships is 13 years.³¹⁴¹ The law prohibits employing children under 15 years in any

³¹³¹ Ibid., 4-5. See also Government of Nigeria, *Efforts to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor*, February 26, 2007, 1, Government of Nigeria-Federal Office of Statistics and ILO/SIMPOC, *Final Report on National Modular Child Labour Survey: Nigeria*, ILO, Lagos, 2000-2001. See also Government of Nigeria-Federal Office of Statistics and ILO/SIMPOC, *National Modular Child Labour Survey Report: Nigeria*, Anthony Hodges, *Children's and Women's Rights in Nigeria: A Wake-up Call, Situation Assessment and Analysis 2001* (Lagos: UNICEF and the Nigeria National Planning Commission, 2001), 204.

³¹³² Government of Nigeria, *Draft National Policy on Child Labor*, 4.

³¹³³ Ibid., 4. See also Government of Nigeria-Federal Office of Statistics and ILO/SIMPOC, *National Modular Child Labour Survey Report: Nigeria*, 23-26. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Nigeria," Section 6d, and U.S. Embassy- Abuja official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, August 1, 2007.

³¹³⁴ Government of Nigeria, *Efforts to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor*, 1. See also Government of Nigeria, *Draft National Policy on Child Labor* 2006, 5.

³¹³⁵ ECPAT International CSEC Database, *Nigeria*, September 13, 2006; available from http://www.ecpat.net/eng/Ecpat_inter/projects/monitoring/online_database/countries.asp?arrCountryID=126&CountryProfile=facts,affiliation,humanrights&CSEC=Overview,Prostitution,Pronography,trafficking&Implement=Coordination_cooperation,Prevention,Protection,Recovery,ChildParticipation&Nationalplans=National_plans_of_action&orgWorkCSEC=&DisplayBy=optDisplayCountry. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Nigeria," Section 5.

³¹³⁶ Government of Nigeria, *Efforts to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor*, 1. See also Government of Nigeria, *Draft National Policy on Child Labor*, 5.

³¹³⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Nigeria (Tier 2)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/65989.htm>.

³¹³⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Nigeria," Section 6d.

³¹³⁹ Ibid.

³¹⁴⁰ Ibid. Government of Nigeria, *Nigeria Labour Act 1974*, Article 59; available from <http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/docs/WEBTEXT/42156/64980/E7RNGA01.htm#p3>.

³¹⁴¹ Government of Nigeria, *Nigeria Labour Act 1974*, Article 49.

industrial undertaking.³¹⁴² Children under 16 years are prohibited from working underground, on machines, at night, on public holidays, or in dangerous or immoral employment. Children under 16 are also prohibited from working more than 8 hours a day and cannot be required to work for more than 4 consecutive hours.³¹⁴³ The Federal Child's Rights Act of 2003 provides criminal sanctions for violation of child labor laws.³¹⁴⁴ However, it is legally binding only in the Nigerian states where it has been adopted. Of Nigeria's 36 states, only the Federal Capital Territory, Anambra, Ondo, Ogun, Oyo, Nasarawa, Ebonyi, and Cross River have adopted the law.³¹⁴⁵

The law punishes with imprisonment for life the trafficking of persons under 18 with the intent to prostitute them.³¹⁴⁶ Inducing a person under 18 years into prostitution whether by force, deception, debt bondage, or with the victim's consent is punishable by 10 years of imprisonment.³¹⁴⁷ The law also prohibits forced labor, trafficking in slaves, pornography, drug trafficking, and forced or compulsory recruitment into armed conflict of any person, including children.³¹⁴⁸ The law applies to all residents of Nigeria and to Nigerians who are convicted outside of Nigeria for trafficking-related offenses.³¹⁴⁹ It also provides for the rights of victims of trafficking, including the right to access health and social services while a temporary resident, protection of identity, and the right to press charges³¹⁵⁰ against the trafficker.³¹⁵⁰ Nigeria has no military conscription. Recruitment into the professional armed forces is on a voluntary basis. The minimum legal recruitment age is 18.³¹⁵¹

The responsibility of enforcing child labor laws rests with various ministries and agencies at the federal, state, and local levels. The Federal Ministry of Employment, Labor, and Productivity coordinates all efforts to combat child labor through its Inspectorate Department, which includes a Child Labor Unit.³¹⁵² The law authorizes the Minister of Labor to regulate child domestic service.³¹⁵³ According to the U.S. Department of State, Nigerian federal government initiatives to stem the incidence of child labor have been ineffective, in particular as they have been unable to reach all state and local levels.³¹⁵⁴ Although the Ministry conducted inspections, the inspections focused on the formal business sector, where the

³¹⁴² Ibid., Articles 59-61.

³¹⁴³ Ibid., Articles 59-60.

³¹⁴⁴ U.S. Embassy- Abuja, *reporting*, December 15, 2006, para 8a.

³¹⁴⁵ Ibid.

³¹⁴⁶ Government of Nigeria, *Trafficking in Persons (Prohibition) Law Enforcement and Administration Act, 2003*, (July 2003), Section 11. See also The Protection Project, *2005 Human Rights Report on Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children: Nigeria*, [cited October 18, 2006]; available from <http://www.protectionproject.org>, 7-8.

³¹⁴⁷ Government of Nigeria, *Trafficking in Persons Act*, Sections 11-14. See also The Protection Project, *2005 Human Rights Report on Trafficking in Persons: Nigeria*, 7-8.

³¹⁴⁸ Government of Nigeria, *Trafficking in Persons Act*, Section 15. See also The Protection Project, *2005 Human Rights Report on Trafficking in Persons: Nigeria*, 8-9.

³¹⁴⁹ Government of Nigeria, *Trafficking in Persons Act*, Sections 14 and 25.

³¹⁵⁰ Ibid., Section 36.

³¹⁵¹ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004-Nigeria*, online report, 2004; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=790.

³¹⁵² Gladys Makoju, Deputy Director, Education Sector Analysis, Interview with USDOL Consultant, March 29, 2005. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Nigeria," Section 6d.

³¹⁵³ Government of Nigeria, *Nigeria Labour Act 1974*, Articles 59 and 65.

³¹⁵⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Nigeria," Section 6d.

incidence of child labor is not a significant problem.³¹⁵⁵ The Ministry of Labor has trained approximately 120 labor inspection officers on child labor laws and has an additional 80 officers to perform inspections in high-risk areas such as agriculture, mining, and in the informal sector.³¹⁵⁶

Enforcement efforts regarding trafficking are the primary responsibility of the National Agency for Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons (NAPTIP).³¹⁵⁷ The National Police Force (NPF) and the Nigerian Immigration Service (NIS) also have anti-trafficking units responsible for combating trafficking.³¹⁵⁸ The NAPTIP, NPF, and NIS are improving coordination and record-keeping, and the number of trafficking cases investigated and prosecuted is reported to be increasing.³¹⁵⁹ Between November 2005 and March 2006, NPF rescued 96 victims, NAPTIP rescued 21 victims, and NIS, operating at international borders, rescued 16 child laborers/trafficking victims.³¹⁶⁰ Despite this, trafficking is reportedly on the rise, and NAPTIP lacks adequate resources to address all of the victims' needs.³¹⁶¹ The Ministry of Labor and Productivity is reported to have repatriated 370 trafficked children.³¹⁶² At the state level, anti-trafficking police units have been established and staffed in states with the worst trafficking problems.³¹⁶³

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Government of Nigeria participated in a USD 6 million USDOL-funded regional project, which withdrew or prevented 1,017 children from hazardous work in the cocoa sector and closed in April 2006.³¹⁶⁴ In addition, the USAID-supported Sustainable Tree Crops Program incorporates child labor issues into its program in Nigeria.³¹⁶⁵ With funding from Canada, France and Norway, the UNODC Global Program against Trafficking in Human Beings provides technical assistance to the government to assess trends in human trafficking.³¹⁶⁶ The Governments of Nigeria and Italy are collaborating on a separate UNODC project to reduce

³¹⁵⁵ Ibid.

³¹⁵⁶ U.S. Embassy- Abuja, *reporting, December 15, 2006*, para 8b. See also Government of Nigeria, *Efforts to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor*, 3.

³¹⁵⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Nigeria," Section 5.

³¹⁵⁸ Ibid. See also The Protection Project, *2005 Human Rights Report on Trafficking in Persons: Nigeria.*, 14.

³¹⁵⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Nigeria," Section 5.

³¹⁶⁰ U.S. Embassy- Abuja, *reporting, December 15, 2006*, para 8b.

³¹⁶¹ U.S. Embassy- Abuja, *reporting, March 14, 2007*, para 1b.

³¹⁶² Government of Nigeria, *Efforts to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor*, 3.

³¹⁶³ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Nigeria," Section 5.

³¹⁶⁴ ILO-IPEC, *West Africa Cocoa/Commercial Agriculture Programme to Combat Hazardous and Exploitative Child Labour*, final technical progress report, Geneva, June 2006, 19, 31, and 41.

³¹⁶⁵ ILO-IPEC, *West Africa Cocoa/Commercial Agriculture Programme to Combat Hazardous and Exploitative Child Labour (WACAP)*, project document, RAF/02/P50/USA, Geneva, September 2002., 10. See also Sustainable Tree Crops Program, *Program Overview and Country Activities*, [online] 2006 [cited October 19, 2006]; available from http://www.treecrops.org/aboutstcp/program_overview.asp. See also ILO-IPEC, *West Africa Cocoa (WACAP), final technical progress report*, 6.

³¹⁶⁶ UN Office on Drugs and Crime, *Pilot Projects: Technical Cooperation by Geographical Region: Africa*, [online] [cited October 20, 2006]; available from http://www.odccp.org/odccp/trafficking_projects.html.

the trafficking of women and minors for the purpose of commercial sexual exploitation between the two countries.³¹⁶⁷

In July 2006, Nigeria was 1 of 24 countries to adopt the Multilateral Cooperation Agreement to Combat Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children, in West and Central Africa and the Joint Plan of Action Against Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children in the West and Central African Regions.³¹⁶⁸ As part of the Multilateral Cooperative Agreement, the governments agreed to put into place the child trafficking monitoring system developed by the U.S. Department of Labor-funded, ILO-IPEC LUTRENA project; to ensure that birth certificates and travel identity documents cannot easily be falsified or altered; to provide assistance to each other in the investigation, arrest and prosecution of trafficking offenders; to protect, rehabilitate, and reintegrate trafficking victims; and to improve educational systems, vocational training and apprenticeships.³¹⁶⁹

³¹⁶⁷ UN Office on Drugs and Crime, *Programme of action against trafficking in minors and young women from Nigeria into Italy for the purpose of sexual exploitation*, 2006 [cited October 20, 2006]; available from <http://www.unodc.org/nigeria/en/humantrafficking.html>.

³¹⁶⁸ ILO-IPEC, *Combating Trafficking of Children for Labour Exploitation in West and Central Africa (LUTRENA)-Phase II*, technical progress report, September 30, 2006., 10-11.

³¹⁶⁹ ECOWAS and ECASS, "Multilateral Cooperation Agreement to Combat Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children, in West and Central Africa Abuja", July 7, 2006. See also Emmanuel Goujon, "African States sign up to fight human trafficking," *Agence France Presse*, July 7, 2006.

Oman

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Children in Oman work in family businesses, as well as in informal occupations such as agriculture, fishing, cleaning, and delivering messages and other goods. Bedouin children participate in camel racing as part of their cultural heritage, but there are no substantiated reports of foreign children trafficked to work as camel jockeys or

for other purposes. The UN Committee on the Rights of the Child does not consider the use of child camel jockeys, as practiced in Oman, an issue of concern.³¹⁷⁹

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working:	Unavailable
Minimum age for admission to work:	15 ³¹⁷⁰
Age to which education is compulsory:	Not compulsory ³¹⁷¹
Free public education:	Yes ³¹⁷²
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:	87% ³¹⁷³
Net primary enrollment rate in 2004:	78% ³¹⁷⁴
Percent of children 5-14 attending school:	Unavailable
As of 2003, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	98% ³¹⁷⁵
Ratified Convention 138:	7/21/2005 ³¹⁷⁶
Ratified Convention 182:	6/11/2001 ³¹⁷⁷
ILO-IPEC participating country:	No ³¹⁷⁸

It is difficult to ascertain whether any child prostitution, pornography, or trafficking exists in Oman, because of lack of data. The UN Committee on the Rights of the Child has noted that a large number of migrant workers enter Oman each year, thus increasing the likelihood that trafficked children may be among them. The Committee has recommended that the

³¹⁷⁰ Government of Oman, *Royal Decree No. 35/2003: Oman Labour Law*, (May 3, 2003).

³¹⁷¹ U.S. Department of State, "Oman," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78860.htm>.

³¹⁷² U.S. Embassy- Muscat, *reporting*, December 20, 2006.

³¹⁷³ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

³¹⁷⁴ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Rate. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

³¹⁷⁵ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Survival Rate to Grade 5. Total*, accessed December 18, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

³¹⁷⁶ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, accessed October 19, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/newcountryframeE.htm>.

³¹⁷⁷ Ibid.

³¹⁷⁸ ILO-IPEC, *IPEC Action Against Child Labour: Highlights 2006*, Geneva, October 2006, 29; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ipcc/prod/eng/20061018_Implementationreport_eng.pdf.

³¹⁷⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Oman." See also UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Consideration of Reports Submitted Under Article 44 of the Convention: Periodic Reports of States Parties due in 2004: Oman*, Geneva, May 8, 2006, paras 493, 494, and 495; available from [http://www.unhchr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/898586b1dc7b4043c1256a450044f331/5f413fbfb9afc6c3c125720300480dc5/\\$FILE/G0641883.DOC](http://www.unhchr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/898586b1dc7b4043c1256a450044f331/5f413fbfb9afc6c3c125720300480dc5/$FILE/G0641883.DOC).

government conduct in-depth studies on the commercial sexual exploitation and trafficking of children.³¹⁸⁰

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The minimum age of employment in Oman is 15 years. Minors 15 to 18 years are permitted to work up to 6 hours per day, between the hours of 6 a.m. and 6 p.m., but they may not work overtime or work on holidays or rest days.³¹⁸¹ Workplaces that employ minors are required to post certain items for display, including a copy of the provisions of the law regulating the employment of children; an updated log with the names of minors employed in the workplace with their ages and dates of employment; and a work schedule showing work hours, rest periods, and weekly holidays.³¹⁸² In July 2006, a royal decree increased the maximum prison term from 1 week to 1 month for employers who repeatedly use child labor.³¹⁸³ The minimum legal age to work as a camel jockey is being increased gradually from 14 until it reaches 18 in 2009.³¹⁸⁴

Forced labor by children is prohibited by law.³¹⁸⁵ The crime of inciting a minor under 18 years into prostitution is punishable by not less than 5 years of imprisonment.³¹⁸⁶ Child pornography is not explicitly outlawed, but the production, possession, or distribution of pornographic material is punishable by up to 1 year of imprisonment.³¹⁸⁷ There is no specific legal provision prohibiting trafficking in persons;³¹⁸⁸ however, the crime of enslaving a person carries a prison sentence of between 5 and 15 years.³¹⁸⁹ Similarly, the crimes of receiving, possessing, acquiring, maintaining, or causing a person to enter or exit Oman in a state of servitude or slavery are punishable by 3 to 5 years of imprisonment.³¹⁹⁰ It is illegal to engage a minor under age 18 in illicit activities such as drug production or trafficking, or any other activity linked with

³¹⁸⁰ UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Consideration of Reports Submitted by States Parties Under Article 44 of the Convention: Concluding Observations: Oman*, CRC/C/OMN/CO/2, Geneva, September 29, 2006, 14, 15; available from http://www.ohchr.org/english/bodies/crc/docs/co/CRC_C_OMN_CO_2.pdf. See also United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), *Trafficking in Persons: Global Patterns*, Vienna, 2006, 19-20; available from http://www.unodc.org/pdf/traffickinginpersons_report_2006ver2.pdf.

³¹⁸¹ Government of Oman, *Oman Labour Law*, Articles 75-77.

³¹⁸² *Ibid.*, Article 78.

³¹⁸³ U.S. Embassy- Muscat, *reporting*, November 7, 2006.

³¹⁸⁴ U.S. Embassy- Muscat, *reporting*, December 20, 2006.

³¹⁸⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Oman," Section 6d.

³¹⁸⁶ Government of Oman, *Penal Code*, Article 220; available from

<http://www.interpol.int/public/Children/SexualAbuse/NationalLaws/csaOman.asp>.

³¹⁸⁷ *Ibid.*, Articles 34 and 224.

³¹⁸⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Oman," Section 5.

³¹⁸⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Oman (Tier 2 Watch List)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Oman*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/65989.htm>.

³¹⁹⁰ ILO Committee of Experts, *Direct Request, Worst Forms of Child Labor Convention, 1999 (No. 138), Oman (ratification: 2001)*, [online] 2004 [cited November 2, 2006]; available from <http://webfusion.ilo.org/public/db/standards/normes/appl/appl-displayAllComments.cfm?conv=C182&ctry=2790&hdroff=1&lang=EN>.

narcotic drugs; such offenses are punishable by the death penalty.³¹⁹¹ The minimum age for voluntary military recruitment is 18.³¹⁹²

The Ministry of Manpower (MOM) is responsible for the enforcement of child labor laws, and the U.S. Department of State reports that enforcement is generally sufficient. However, enforcement does not always extend to small family businesses, especially those engaged in agriculture and fishing.³¹⁹³ The UN Committee on the Rights of the Child has recommended that the Government of Oman strengthen its labor inspectorate in order to better monitor the extent of child labor in both the formal and informal sectors.³¹⁹⁴ In practice, most employers ask each prospective employee for a certificate indicating that he or she has completed basic education through grade 10. Considering that children usually begin their basic education at age 6, this means that workers, in most cases, will be age 16 when they begin work.³¹⁹⁵ Registration with the Omani Camel Racing Federation and submission of a passport, photograph, and birth certificate confirming compliance with minimum age laws is required of all persons seeking work as camel jockeys.³¹⁹⁶

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

In March 2006, the Governments of Oman and Pakistan signed a memorandum of understanding to increase cooperation in combating organized crime and trafficking in persons.³¹⁹⁷ Oman has also entered into bilateral and multilateral agreements with Saudi Arabia, India, and the Arab Gulf Cooperation Council aimed at combating various forms of child sexual exploitation.³¹⁹⁸ The government operates a 24-hour hotline to allow citizens to report claims of labor abuses,³¹⁹⁹ including trafficking.³²⁰⁰

³¹⁹¹ Ibid.

³¹⁹² CIA, *World Factbook: Oman*, [online] May 17, 2005 [cited October 18, 2006]; available from <https://www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook/fields/2024.html>.

³¹⁹³ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Oman," Section 6d.

³¹⁹⁴ UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Concluding Observations: Oman*, 14.

³¹⁹⁵ U.S. Embassy- Muscat, *reporting*, August 23, 2004.

³¹⁹⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Oman (Tier 2 Watch List)."

³¹⁹⁷ U.S. Department of State official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, March 14, 2006.

³¹⁹⁸ ILO Committee of Experts, *ILO Direct Request: Oman*.

³¹⁹⁹ US Embassy- Muscat official, E-mail communication USDOL official, July 25, 2007.

³²⁰⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Oman," Section 5. See also U.S. Department of State, "Oman (Tier 2 Watch List)."

Pakistan

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 1999-2000, approximately 15.8 percent of boys and 17.2 percent of girls ages 10 to 14 were working in Pakistan. The majority of working children were found in the agricultural sector (78.1 percent), followed by services (13.4 percent), manufacturing (7.1 percent), and other sectors (1.4 percent).³²¹¹ The country's rapid population growth and high rate of urbanization have increased the

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 10-14 estimated as working in 1999-2000:	16.4% ³²⁰¹
Minimum age for admission to work:	14 in specified hazardous occupations ³²⁰²
Age to which education is compulsory:	Varies by province ³²⁰³
Free public education:	No ³²⁰⁴
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:	82% ³²⁰⁵
Net primary enrollment rate in 2004:	66% ³²⁰⁶
Percent of children 10-14 attending school in 1999-2000:	64.9% ³²⁰⁷
Percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	Unavailable
Ratified Convention 138:	7/6/2006 ³²⁰⁸
Ratified Convention 182:	10/11/2001 ³²⁰⁹
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Yes ³²¹⁰

³²⁰¹ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, March 1, 2007.

³²⁰² Government of Pakistan, *The Factories Act, 1934 (as amended to 1997)*, (January 1, 1935), Article 2; available from <http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/docs/WBTEXT/35384/64903/E97PAK01.htm#c1>. See also *Employment of Children Act*, (June 4, 1991), Sections 2, 3, Schedule; available from <http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/docs/WBTEXT/22707/64834/E91PAK01.htm>.

³²⁰³ U.S. Embassy- Islamabad, *reporting*, December 18, 2006. See also UNESCO, *Education - National Legislation*, [online] [cited October 18, 2006]; available from http://portal.unesco.org/education/en/ev.php-URL_ID=12388&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html.

³²⁰⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Pakistan," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78874.htm>.

³²⁰⁵ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

³²⁰⁶ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Rate. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

³²⁰⁷ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

³²⁰⁸ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, accessed October 17, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/newratframeE.htm>.

³²⁰⁹ Ibid.

³²¹⁰ ILO-IPEC, *IPEC Action Against Child Labour: Highlights 2006*, Geneva, October 2006, 27; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ipcc/prod/eng/20061019_Implementationreport_eng_Web.pdf.

³²¹¹ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

number of street children in urban areas. Street children work scavenging garbage and vending various products, among other activities.³²¹² Also in urban areas, children work in manufacturing, construction, transport, domestic service, and by assisting in family businesses.³²¹³ In the Northwest Frontier Province and Balochistan province, the children of Afghan refugees are particularly vulnerable to involvement in the worst forms of child labor.³²¹⁴

Children are employed in several hazardous activities across the country, including rag-picking; leather tanning; mining; deep-sea fishing; seafood processing; brick-making; and manufacturing of surgical instruments and glass bangles.³²¹⁵ Children working in carpet-weaving suffer injuries from sharp tools, eye disease and eye strain, respiratory disease due to wool dust, and skeletal deformation and pain due to cramped working conditions.³²¹⁶ Many working children are vulnerable to physical and sexual abuse, particularly those working far from their families such as street children, child miners, and child domestics working in private homes.³²¹⁷

There are reports of children being kidnapped, maimed, and forced to work as beggars.³²¹⁸ Bonded child labor reportedly exists in Pakistan in the brick, carpet, textile, and rice-milling industries, as well as in agricultural activities; in some cases, children are sold into bondage by their parents.³²¹⁹ Children working in mining, agriculture and domestic service are often from

³²¹² ECPAT International, *Situational Analysis Report on Prostitution of Boys in Pakistan (Lahore & Peshawar)*, Bangkok, June 2006, xi; available from http://www.ecpat.net/eng/publications/Boy_Prostitution/PDF/Pakistan.pdf.

³²¹³ Government of Pakistan, *Information on Efforts to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour*, submitted in response to U.S. Department of Labor Federal Register Notice (July 25, 2005) "Request for Information on Efforts by Certain Countries to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor", Islamabad, August 15, 2005, 3. See also ILO-IPEC, *Supporting the Time-Bound Programme on the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour in Pakistan*, project document, Geneva, September 17, 2003, 8. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Pakistan," Section 6d.

³²¹⁴ Save the Children - UK, *Mitigating Child Labour in Pakistan*, project document, London, October 2006, 3, 6, 7.

³²¹⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Pakistan," Section 6d. See also ILO-IPEC, *Time-Bound Programme*, project document, 9-10 and Table 2.1.

³²¹⁶ ILO - Special Action Programme to Combat Forced Labour, *A Rapid Assessment of Bonded Labour in the Carpet Industry of Pakistan*, Geneva, 2004, 9; available from

http://www.ilo.org/dyn/declaris/DECLARATIONWEB.DOWNLOAD_BLOB?Var_DocumentID=2725.

³²¹⁷ UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Consideration of Reports Submitted by States Parties Under Article 44 of the Convention: Concluding Observations: Pakistan*, October 27, 2003, para 69; available from

[http://www.unhchr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/\(Symbol\)/CRC.C.15.Add.217.En?OpenDocument](http://www.unhchr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/(Symbol)/CRC.C.15.Add.217.En?OpenDocument). See also ILO - Special Action Programme to Combat Forced Labour, *A Rapid Assessment of Bonded Labour in Pakistan's Mining Sector*, Geneva, March 2004, 15; available from

http://www.ilo.org/dyn/declaris/DECLARATIONWEB.DOWNLOAD_BLOB?Var_DocumentID=2583.

³²¹⁸ ILO - Special Action Programme to Combat Forced Labour, *A Rapid Assessment of Bonded Labour in Domestic Work and Begging in Pakistan*, Geneva, March 2004, 4, 22; available from

http://www.ilo.org/dyn/declaris/DECLARATIONWEB.DOWNLOAD_BLOB?Var_DocumentID=2622.

³²¹⁹ ILO - Special Action Programme to Combat Forced Labour, *Unfree Labour in Pakistan: Work, Debt and Bondage in Brick Kilns*, Geneva, March 2004, xiv, 7; available from

http://www.ilo.org/dyn/declaris/DECLARATIONWEB.DOWNLOAD_BLOB?Var_DocumentID=2724. See also ILO - Special Action Programme to Combat Forced Labour, *Bonded Labour in the Carpet Industry*, 18-20. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Pakistan," Sections 5 and 6c. See also U.S. Embassy-Islamabad, *reporting*, February 28, 2007.

families who are bonded or indebted to their employers.³²²⁰ Commercial sexual exploitation of children continues to be a problem,³²²¹ with some families selling their daughters into prostitution.³²²² Recent reports have also highlighted the increasing numbers of boys as young as 9 years of age exploited as prostitutes.³²²³ Young boys are also reportedly at high risk of being trafficked within the country.³²²⁴ Pakistani girls are trafficked into commercial sexual exploitation in Persian Gulf countries, and despite significant government efforts to stop the practice, Pakistani boys continue to be trafficked to the United Arab Emirates and Qatar to work as camel jockeys.³²²⁵

Pakistan continues to rebuild from the earthquake of October 8, 2005. Thousands of child survivors were orphaned or separated from their families, making them vulnerable to trafficking and other forms of exploitive child labor.³²²⁶ In the months following the quake, relief agencies observed a marked increase in children working at small refreshment stands, workshops, restaurants, hotels, shops, and inside private homes.³²²⁷

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

It is illegal to employ children under 14 years in factories, mines, or other hazardous occupations or processes.³²²⁸ The law lists 4 occupations and 34 processes as hazardous, therefore prohibited for children, including work within railway stations, ports, or mines; carpet weaving; construction; and manufacturing of cement, explosives, and other products that involve the use of toxic substances.³²²⁹ Children 14 to 18 may work in mines, but only for less than 5 consecutive hours between 7 p.m. and 7 a.m., and only with a certificate of fitness. Children 14 to 18 may work in shops and establishments, but no more than 7 hours per day

³²²⁰ ILO - Special Action Programme to Combat Forced Labour, *Bonded Labour in Domestic Work and Begging*, 19. See also ILO - Special Action Programme to Combat Forced Labour, *Bonded Labour in Agriculture: A Rapid Assessment in Sindh and Balochistan, Pakistan*, Geneva, March 2004, 16, 28; available from http://www.ilo.org/dyn/declaris/DECLARATIONWEB.DOWNLOAD_BLOB?Var_DocumentID=2727. See also ILO - Special Action Programme to Combat Forced Labour, *Bonded Labour in Pakistan's Mining Sector*, 14.

³²²¹ U.S. Department of State, "Pakistan (Tier 2)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/65989.htm>. See also ECPAT International CSEC Database, *Pakistan*, accessed October 18, 2006; available from www.ecpat.net/.

³²²² U.S. Embassy- Islamabad, *reporting*, February 28, 2007.

³²²³ ECPAT International, *Prostitution of Boys in Pakistan*, xi, 21, and 39. See also ECPAT International CSEC Database, *Pakistan*.

³²²⁴ U.S. Embassy- Islamabad, *reporting*, February 28, 2007.

³²²⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Pakistan."

³²²⁶ ILO-IPEC, *Pakistan Earthquake - Child Labour Response*, project document, Geneva, September 14, 2006, 1, 5. See also IRINnews, "Interview with UNICEF country representative, Dr. Omar Abdi", IRINnews.org, [online], November 9, 2005 [cited October 18, 2006]; available from <http://www.irinnews.org/print.asp?ReportID=50025>.

³²²⁷ Integrated Regional Information Networks, "Young Quake Survivors Turning to Child Labour", IRINnews.org, [online], February 7, 2006 [cited November 1, 2006]; available from <http://www.irinnews.org/report.asp?ReportID=51591&SelectRegion=Asia&SelectCountry=PAKISTAN>.

³²²⁸ *Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan*, (1973), Chapter 1, Article 11(3); available from

<http://www.pakistani.org/pakistan/constitution/part2.ch2.html>. See also *The Factories Act, 1934 (as amended to 1997)*, Article 2.

³²²⁹ Government of Pakistan, *Employment of Children Act*, (June 4, 1991, as amended December 20, 2005), Sections 2, 3, Schedule; available from <http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/docs/WEBTEXT/22707/64834/E91PAK01.htm>. See also U.S. Embassy- Islamabad, *reporting*, December 18, 2006.

and 42 hours per week, and only between the hours of 9 a.m. and 7 p.m.³²³⁰ Children 15 years and older may work in factories for up to 5 hours per day, provided they do not work between 7 p.m. and 6 a.m. and have been granted a certificate of fitness.³²³¹ Children of any age may work in non-hazardous occupations, provided they work no more than 7 hours per day and no more than 3 consecutive hours without rest, do not work between 7 p.m. and 8 a.m., and do not work overtime.³²³² Employers are also required by law to maintain minimum standards of health and safety in a child's working environment.³²³³ Violations can result in a 1-year prison term, or up to 2 years for repeat violations. Children working for their families or in government schools are exempted from these provisions and may work unlimited hours under unregulated conditions.³²³⁴

Forced labor is prohibited by law, and those found in violation face 2 to 5 years of imprisonment.³²³⁵ Commercial sexual exploitation of children is a crime, with penalties that can extend up to life imprisonment. Such offenses are defined as selling, letting to hire, or otherwise disposing of a person for the purpose of prostitution, illicit intercourse, or any unlawful and immoral purpose; or buying, hiring, procuring, or otherwise obtaining possession of a person for the same purposes.³²³⁶ Parents who cause, encourage, or abet the seduction or prostitution of a girl under 16 years are subject to imprisonment of up to 3 years, as is any person who allows a child under 16 years into a brothel. The law does not specifically prohibit child pornography, but outlaws the circulation of any obscene material, with violations subject to fines and up to 3 months of imprisonment.³²³⁷ Importation of a girl for prostitution is punishable by 3 years of imprisonment.³²³⁸ Obtaining, securing, selling, purchasing, recruiting, detaining, harboring, or receiving a person by coercion, kidnapping, or abduction for sexual exploitation, slavery, or forced labor is also outlawed. Penalties for these crimes range from 7 to 10 years of imprisonment.³²³⁹ Importing, exporting, trafficking, or

³²³⁰ Networking Project on Hazardous Child Labour, *Background Document: Policy and Legal Context in Asia Regarding Hazardous Child Labour*, June 16, 2005, 61.

³²³¹ *The Factories Act, 1934 (as amended to 1997)*, Article 54.

³²³² *Employment of Children Act*, Sections 6-7.

³²³³ Government of Pakistan, *Employment of Children Rules*, (1995); available from <http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/docs/WEBTEXT/44242/65005/E95PAK01.htm>.

³²³⁴ *Employment of Children Act*, Sections 3, 14.

³²³⁵ *Constitution of Pakistan*, Article 11 (2). See also ILO NATLEX National Labor Law Database, *Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act of 1992 (abstract)*, accessed October 18, 2006; available from http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/natlex_browse.details?p_lang=en&p_country=PAK&p_classification=03&p_origin=COUNTRY.

³²³⁶ Government of Pakistan, *The Offence of Zina (Enforcement of Hudood) Ordinance*, No. VII, (February 10, 1979), Articles 13, 14; available from

http://www.punjabpolice.gov.pk/user_files/File/offence_of_zina_ordinance_1979.pdf. See also *Penal Code (1860)*, as cited in ILO - Regional Project on Combating Child Trafficking for Labour and Sexual Exploitation, *Anti-child Trafficking Legislation in Asia: A Six-country Review*, International Labour Office, Bangkok, 2006, 38; available from http://www.crin.org/docs/ilo_asia_traf_2006.pdf.

³²³⁷ *Pakistan Suppression of Prostitution Ordinance (1961)*, Sections 7, 10, 292; as cited in Interpol, "Pakistan," in *Legislation of Interpol Member States on Sexual Offences Against Children*, Islamabad; available from <http://www.interpol.int/Public/Children/SexualAbuse/NationalLaws/csaPakistan.pdf>.

³²³⁸ *Pakistan Suppression of Prostitution Ordinance (1961)*, Section 9, as cited in *Ibid*.

³²³⁹ *Constitution of Pakistan*, Article 11(2). See also *Prevention and Control of Human Trafficking and Smuggling Ordinance (2002)*, as cited in ILO - Regional Project on Combating Child Trafficking for Labour and Sexual Exploitation, *Anti-child Trafficking Legislation in Asia*, 35, 36.

dealing in slaves is punishable by life imprisonment.³²⁴⁰ The minimum age for voluntary enlistment in the military is 16 years.³²⁴¹

Child labor and forced labor laws are enforced by provincial governments through the labor inspectorate system.³²⁴² The U.S. Department of State reports that enforcement of these laws is weak because of an inadequate number of inspectors; lack of training and resources; corruption; and the exclusion of many small businesses from the inspectorate's jurisdiction. Employers found in violation of child labor laws often are not penalized, and penalties are generally too minor to act as a deterrent.³²⁴³ In 2006, the provincial inspectorates conducted only 8,851 child labor inspections resulting in 55 prosecutions, a sharp decline from 2005, and the average fine levied against employers convicted of child labor violations also dropped significantly from 2005 to 2006.³²⁴⁴

The Anti-Trafficking Unit of the Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) has primary responsibility for enforcing trafficking-related laws.³²⁴⁵ With support from IOM, the government has stepped up training for FIA Anti-Trafficking Unit staff, law enforcement officers, attorneys, and judges, to more effectively identify, investigate, and prosecute trafficking cases. Accordingly, the number of cases investigated and prosecuted has increased.³²⁴⁶ There are still reports of police officers complicit in commercial sexual exploitation and trafficking of children, but the government has arrested and prosecuted some officials involved in such activities.³²⁴⁷

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

In May 2006, the Government of Pakistan adopted a National Action Plan for Children that aims to harmonize federal and state child labor programs and work toward the progressive elimination of child labor.³²⁴⁸ Since 2000, the national and provincial-level governments have been implementing a National Policy and Action Plan to Combat Child Labor (NPPA) that calls for immediate eradication of the worst forms of child labor; progressive elimination of

³²⁴⁰ *Penal Code (1860)*, Article 371, as cited in ILO - Regional Project on Combating Child Trafficking for Labour and Sexual Exploitation, *Anti-child Trafficking Legislation in Asia*, 38.

³²⁴¹ U.S. Central Intelligence Agency, *World Factbook: Pakistan*, [online] May 17, 2005 [cited October 12, 2006]; available from <https://www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook/fields/2024.html>.

³²⁴² Government of Pakistan, *Efforts to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour*, 1.

³²⁴³ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Pakistan," Section 6d. See also ILO - InFocus Programme on Promoting the Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work, *Bonded Labour in Pakistan*, Geneva, June, 2001, 11; available from

http://www.ilo.org/dyn/declaris/DECLARATIONWEB.DOWNLOAD_BLOB?Var_DocumentID=1545. See also U.S. Embassy- Islamabad, *reporting, December 18, 2006*.

³²⁴⁴ U.S. Embassy- Islamabad, *reporting, December 18, 2006*.

³²⁴⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Pakistan," Section 5. See also U.S. Embassy- Islamabad, *reporting* March 11, 2005.

³²⁴⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Pakistan." See also U.S. Embassy- Islamabad, *reporting, March 11, 2005*.

³²⁴⁷ ECPAT International, *Prostitution of Boys in Pakistan*, 47, 50. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Pakistan," Section 5.

³²⁴⁸ Government of Pakistan - Ministry of Social Welfare and Special Education, *National Plan of Action for Children*, Islamabad, May 24, 2006; available from <http://www.nccwd.gov.pk/newsfiles/NPA%20for%20Children.pdf>.

child labor from all sectors; educational alternatives to keep children out of work; and rehabilitation of children withdrawn from work.³²⁴⁹ The government's 2003 PRSP reiterates the government's commitment to the NPPA, and incorporates the reduction of child labor into its target-setting process.³²⁵⁰ The National Commission for Child Welfare and Development (NCCWD) oversees the National Project on Rehabilitation of Child Labor, implemented by *Pakistan Bait-Ul-Mal*, an autonomous body established by the Ministry of Social Welfare and Special Education. The project withdraws children between 5 and 14 years from hazardous labor; provides them free non-formal education and clothing; and provides stipends to the children and their families. As of October 2006, the project had assisted more than 14,000 children.³²⁵¹ The provincial labor departments of Punjab, Sindh and Northwest Frontier Province have established Child Labor Resource Centers, and the provincial government of Balochistan has established a Child Labor Vigilance Cell, which provide focal points for disseminating information and forging networks of social partners to combat child labor.³²⁵²

With support from the ILO, the National Commission on Abolition of Bonded Labor and Rehabilitation of Freed Bonded Laborers oversees the implementation of the National Policy and Plan of Action for the Abolition of Bonded Labor.³²⁵³ As part of implementation, the government provided an initial allocation of 100 million rupees (approximately USD 1.7 million) to educate working children and freed bonded laborers.³²⁵⁴

USDOL is funding ILO-IPEC through 2008 to support the Government of Pakistan's Timebound Program, designed to withdraw 10,100 children and prevent 1,700 children from work in the glass bangle, surgical instrument, tanning, coal mining, scavenging, and deep-sea fishing industries.³²⁵⁵ In addition, with the support of USDOL as well as the Swiss, Norwegian, German, and Danish governments and other donors, ILO-IPEC is implementing several other child labor projects targeting children in carpet weaving, soccer ball stitching, and manufacturing of surgical instruments. The project targeting children in carpet weaving will

³²⁴⁹ Government of Pakistan, *National Policy and Action Plan to Combat Child Labour*, Government of Pakistan, Ministry of Labour, Manpower and Overseas Pakistanis, Islamabad, May 20, 2000, 11. See also Government of Pakistan, *Efforts to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour*, 2.

³²⁵⁰ Government of Pakistan- Ministry of Finance, *Accelerating Economic Growth and Reducing Poverty: The Road Ahead (Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper)*, Islamabad, December 2003, 101, 119; available from http://www.moe.gov.pk/prsp_03.pdf.

³²⁵¹ ILO-IPEC, *National Legislation and Policies Against Child Labour in Pakistan*, [online] March 21, 2005 [cited October 19, 2006]; available from <http://www.ilo.org/public/english/region/asro/newdelhi/ipec/responses/pakistan/national.htm>. See also Pakistan Bait-Ul-Mal, *National Centre(s) for Rehabilitation of Child Labour*, [online] [cited October 19, 2006]; available from <http://www.pbm.gov.pk/new/Projects/Ongoing/NCRCL/Introduction.html>.

³²⁵² Government of Pakistan, *Efforts to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour*, Annex A.

³²⁵³ ILO - Special Action Programme to Combat Forced Labour, *A Global Alliance Against Forced Labour*, Geneva, 2005, 76; available from http://www.ilo.org/dyn/declaris/DECLARATIONWEB.DOWNLOAD_BLOB?Var_DocumentID=5059.

³²⁵⁴ Government of Pakistan, *Efforts to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour*, Annex A, 4. For currency conversion, see OANDA, *FX Converter - Currency Converter for 164 Currencies*, [online] [cited October 19, 2006]; available from <http://www.oanda.com/convert/classic>.

³²⁵⁵ ILO-IPEC, *Time-Bound Programme*, project document, 32, 75.

withdraw 21,600 children and prevent 4,400 children from work in that industry.³²⁵⁶ With support from USDOL, Save the Children-UK is implementing two child labor projects in collaboration with federal and provincial governments. The first is a USD 5 million project that will withdraw 8,000 children and prevent 4,300 children from work in various hazardous sectors in Punjab province.³²⁵⁷ The second is an approximately USD 4.3 million project that aims to withdraw 7,300 children and prevent 8,220 children from hazardous work in the provinces of Balochistan, NWFP, and the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA).³²⁵⁸

The government operates shelters that provide legal representation, vocational training, and rehabilitative care to trafficking victims. The Ministry for Overseas Pakistanis has mounted an information campaign on trafficking and safe migration, with a particular emphasis on the problem of children trafficked to the Middle East as camel jockeys.³²⁵⁹ With support from UNICEF, the federal government and the Punjab provincial government operate programs to repatriate child camel jockeys and provide protective and rehabilitative services.³²⁶⁰

Following the October 2005 earthquake, the government and international organizations took steps to prevent vulnerable children from falling victim to exploitive child labor and trafficking. An immediate ban was imposed on the adoption and relocation of children from quake-affected areas, and this measure was sustained throughout 2006. The Ministry of Social Welfare and Special Education (MSWSE) operated Child Care and Rehabilitation Centers to provide shelter, education, health care, and psychosocial services to quake-affected children. The government established and participated in a multi-sector Technical Working Group to handle issues of registration, rehabilitation, recovery, and resettlement of unaccompanied and orphaned children and adolescents.³²⁶¹ The Working Group helped formulate a National Strategy and Plan of Action for the Rehabilitation of the Most Vulnerable Population in Earthquake-Affected Areas, which was adopted in 2006. The Plan acknowledges children's increased vulnerability to harmful child labor and trafficking, and it calls for increased monitoring, protection, and support for quake-affected children.³²⁶² UNICEF and USAID assisted the government in rebuilding schools, reenrolling children, and training teachers;³²⁶³

³²⁵⁶ ILO-IPEC, *IPEC Action Against Child Labour*, 39, 80. See also U.S. Department of Labor, *ILAB Technical Cooperation Project Summary: Combating Child Labor in the Carpet Industry in Pakistan, Phases I & II*, Washington, DC, April 4, 2007.

³²⁵⁷ Save the Children - UK, *Addressing Child Labour through Quality Education for All*, technical progress report, London, September 15, 2006. See also U.S. Department of Labor, *ILAB Technical Cooperation Project Summary: Addressing Child Labor Through Quality Education for All*, Washington, DC, April 4, 2007.

³²⁵⁸ Save the Children - UK, *Mitigating Child Labour in Pakistan*, project document.

³²⁵⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Pakistan." See also U.S. Embassy- Islamabad, *reporting, March 11, 2005*.

³²⁶⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Pakistan." See also Integrated Regional Information Networks, "Former Child Camel Jockeys and the Challenge to Return Home", IRINnews.org, [online], January 3, 2007 [cited January 4, 2007]; available from <http://www.irinnews.org/report.asp?ReportID=56900&SelectRegion=Asia>.

³²⁶¹ ILO-IPEC, *Pakistan Earthquake - Child Labour Response*, project document, 5-6.

³²⁶² Government of Pakistan - Ministry of Social Welfare and Special Education, *Draft National Strategy and Plan of Action for the Rehabilitation of the Most Vulnerable Population in Earthquake-Affected Areas*, Islamabad, 2006; available from <http://www.nccwd.gov.pk/newsfiles/NSPA%20Narrative.pdf>.

³²⁶³ USAID, *Earthquake Reconstruction*, [online] June 1, 2006 [cited November 2, 2006]; available from <http://www.usaid.gov/pk/erthreconstruction/index.htm>. See also UNICEF, *UNICEF Education Achievements*

and USDOL provided approximately USD 1.5 million for education and training programs for children in Balakot, NWFP, left vulnerable to hazardous child labor by the disaster. The project targets 500 children for withdrawal and 2,000 children for prevention from hazardous work.³²⁶⁴

One Year On From Pakistan Earthquake, [previously online] [cited November 2, 2006]; available from http://www.unicef.org/pakistan/media_1769.htm [hard copy on file].

³²⁶⁴ ILO-IPEC, *Pakistan Earthquake - Child Labour Response*, project document, i, 27, 28.

Panama

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2003, approximately 7.7 percent of boys and 2.2 percent of girls ages 10 to 14 were working in Panama. The majority of working children were found in the agricultural sector (57.6 percent), followed by services (38.1 percent), manufacturing (3.1 percent), and other sectors (1.2 percent).³²⁷⁶ Rates of work tend to be

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 10-14 estimated as working in 2003:	5.1% ³²⁶⁵
Minimum age for admission to work:	14 ³²⁶⁶
Age to which education is compulsory:	14 ³²⁶⁷
Free public education:	Yes ³²⁶⁸
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:	112% ³²⁶⁹
Net primary enrollment rate in 2004:	98% ³²⁷⁰
Percent of children 6-14 attending school in 2003:	93.8% ³²⁷¹
As of 2003, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	84% ³²⁷²
Ratified Convention 138:	10/31/2000 ³²⁷³
Ratified Convention 182:	10/31/2000 ³²⁷⁴
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Yes ³²⁷⁵

³²⁶⁵ UCW Analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank Surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, March 1, 2007, Section 5.

³²⁶⁶ ILOLEX, *C138 Minimum Age Convention, 1973*, accessed October 12, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/cgi-lex/pdconv.pl?host=status01&textbase=iloeng&document=4971&chapter=19&query=C138%40ref&highlight=&querytype=bool>. See also *Political Constitution of the Republic of Panama of 1972, Including the Reform Act of 1978, the Constitutional Act of 1983 and the Legislative Acts of 1983 and 1994*, (1972), Article 66; available from <http://www.georgetown.edu/pdba/Constitutions/Panama/panama1994.html>.

³²⁶⁷ *Political Constitution of Panama*, (1994), Article 91; available from <http://www.georgetown.edu/pdba/Constitutions/Panama/panama1994.html>. See also ILO-Committee of Experts, *Direct Request, Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138) Panama (ratification: 2000)*, [online] 2005 [cited October 20, 2006], 2; available from <http://webfusion.ilo.org/public/db/standards/normes/appl/index.cfm?lang=EN>.

³²⁶⁸ *Constitution of Panama*, Article 91.

³²⁶⁹ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

³²⁷⁰ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Rate. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

³²⁷¹ UCW Analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank Surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

³²⁷² UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Survival Rate to Grade 5. Total*, accessed December 18, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

³²⁷³ ILOLEX, *C138 Minimum Age Convention, 1973*.

³²⁷⁴ ILOLEX, *C182 Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999*, accessed October 12, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/cgi-lex/pdconv.pl?host=status01&textbase=iloeng&document=6834&chapter=19&query=C182%40ref&highlight=&querytype=bool>.

³²⁷⁵ ILO-IPEC, *IPEC Action Against Child Labour: Highlights 2006*, Geneva, February, 2007; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ippec/prod/eng/20070228_Implementationreport_en_Web.pdf.

³²⁷⁶ UCW Analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank Surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

higher among indigenous than non-indigenous children in Panama.³²⁷⁷ Children work on commercial and subsistence farms that produce sugar cane, coffee, palm, watermelons, tomatoes, and onions.³²⁷⁸ Some children, including children from indigenous communities in Panama, migrate with their families to other regions of the country in search of paid work, which interrupts their schooling.³²⁷⁹

Children in urban areas in Panama work in the informal sector.³²⁸⁰ They work in personal services, urban markets, and trash dumps; they bag groceries in supermarkets; and they work as assistants for bus drivers.³²⁸¹ Many children receive tips rather than salaries, particularly grocery packers in supermarkets.³²⁸² Children also work as domestic servants in third-party homes.³²⁸³

The commercial sexual exploitation of children and child pornography is a problem in Panama.³²⁸⁴ Panama is a source and destination country for children trafficked for commercial sexual exploitation. Children are trafficked within Panama and from Colombia for sexual exploitation. In addition, some rural and indigenous child domestic servants may be trafficking victims who were transported from the western provinces to the capital.³²⁸⁵

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum age for employment at 14 years.³²⁸⁶ Children who have not completed primary school may not begin work until 15 years.³²⁸⁷ However, the law permits

³²⁷⁷ Census and Statistics Directorate, *Informe Nacional de los Resultados de la Encuesta del Trabajo Infantil*, ILO-IPEC, May 2003, 53; available from http://www.ilo.org/public/spanish/standards/ipecc/simpoc/panama/report/pasitu_2003.pdf. See also ILO-IPEC, *Prevention and Elimination of Child Labour and Hazardous Work in Panama, PHASE II*, project document, September 15, 2006, 3.

³²⁷⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Panama," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 6d; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78900.htm>. See also Creative Associates International, *Destino: Combating Exploitive Child Labor through Education in Panama (El Destino hacia la Educación: Disminuyendo y Erradicando el Trabajo Infantil para Nuevas Oportunidades)* project document, Washington, DC, August 16, 2004. See also Government of Panama, *Written communication*, submitted in response to U.S. Department of Labor Federal Register Notice (July 25, 2005) "Request for Information on Efforts by Certain Countries to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor", Washington, DC, August 22, 2005.

³²⁷⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Panama," Section 6d.

³²⁸⁰ *Ibid.* See also ILO-IPEC, *IPEC Country Program PHASE II*, 4.

³²⁸¹ ILO-IPEC, *Estudio para la determinación de línea de base trabajo infantil y adolescente peligroso en áreas urbanas de los distritos de Panamá y San Miguelito de la Provincia de Panamá: Informe Final*, Panama City, May 13, 2004, 4. See also U.S. Department of State, in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Panama*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006, Section 6d; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/65989.htm>. See also ILO-IPEC, *IPEC Country Program PHASE II*, 4.

³²⁸² ILO-IPEC, *IPEC Country Program PHASE II*, 4.

³²⁸³ ILO-IPEC, *El trabajo infantil doméstico en Panamá*, September 2002, 17.

³²⁸⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons- 2006: Panama (Tier 2)." See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Panama," Section 5.

³²⁸⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Panama," Section 5. See also U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons- 2006: Panama (Tier 2)." See also U.S. Embassy- Panama, *reporting*, March 12, 2007.

³²⁸⁶ *Constitution of Panama*, Article 66.

³²⁸⁷ *Constitution of Panama*, Article 66. See also Government of Panama, *Código de la familia*, (1994), Article 508, 509. See also Government of Panama, *Código del Trabajo (annotated)*, Article 117.

children 12 to 14 to perform light domestic and agricultural labor as long as the work does not interfere with schooling.³²⁸⁸ The ILO's Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations has noted that Panamanian law does not provide clear regulations for the conditions under which 12-to-14-year-olds may engage in light labor.³²⁸⁹

The law prohibits youth 14 to 18 from engaging in potentially hazardous work or work that would impede their school attendance. The law identifies a number of such hazardous forms of work, including work with electric energy, explosives, flammables, and toxic or radioactive substances; work underground; work on railroads, airplanes, or boats; and work in nightclubs, bars, and casinos. Some of these types of work are allowed if the work is performed as part of a training program.³²⁹⁰ Youth under 16 years may work no more than 6 hours a day or 36 hours per week, while those 16 and 17 years may work no more than 7 hours per day or 42 hours per week. Children under 18 may not work between 6 p.m. and 8 a.m.³²⁹¹ Businesses that employ an underage child are subject to civil fines, while employers who endanger the physical or mental health of a child can face 2 to 6 years of imprisonment.³²⁹²

The law prohibits forced labor by children.³²⁹³ Panama does not have armed forces, and therefore has no laws regulating age of conscription.³²⁹⁴

The law provides for a range of penalties for engaging in the prostitution of minors under 18.³²⁹⁵ These include 4 to 8 years imprisonment and fines for soliciting and paying for prostitution with a minor; 8 to 12 years and fines for engaging in prostitution with a minor under 14 years; and 6 to 10 years of imprisonment and fines for being supported by an underage prostitute.³²⁹⁶ The production, distribution, or promotion of child pornography is punishable by 4 to 6 years in prison and fines.³²⁹⁷ Involvement in sex tourism in which children are victims may result in 5 to 8 years in prison and fines.³²⁹⁸ Trafficking of minors for sexual purposes is punishable with 8 to 10 years in prison and fines.³²⁹⁹ The law provides for indemnification of costs for treatment, housing, legal fees and emotional suffering of trafficking victims.³³⁰⁰

³²⁸⁸ *Código de la familia*, Article 716. See also *Código del Trabajo (annotated)*, Article 123.

³²⁸⁹ ILO-Committee of Experts, *Direct Request*, [5].

³²⁹⁰ *Código del Trabajo (annotated)*, Article 118. See also *Código de la familia*, Articles 510-512.

³²⁹¹ *Código del Trabajo (annotated)*, Articles 120 and 122.

³²⁹² U.S. Embassy- Panama, *reporting*, October 5, 2001.

³²⁹³ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Panama," Section 6c.

³²⁹⁴ *Constitution of Panama*, Article 305. See also Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Panama," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, London, 2004; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=834.

³²⁹⁵ Government of Panama, *Código Penal de Panamá*, (March 31, 2004); available from <http://www.unifr.ch/derechopenal/ley.htm>. as cited in Interpol, *National Laws: Legislation of Interpol Member States on Sexual Offences Against Children-Panama*, 2006; available from <http://www.interpol.int/Public/Children/SexualAbuse/NationalLaws/csaPanama.pdf>.

³²⁹⁶ Interpol, *National Laws: Legislation of Interpol Member States on Sexual Offences Against Children-Panama* Articles 229, 229-A, and 230.

³²⁹⁷ *Ibid.*, Articles 231-D, 231-E, 231-F, 231-G, and 231-H.

³²⁹⁸ *Ibid.*, Article 231G.

³²⁹⁹ *Ibid.*, Articles 231, 231A, 231-B, and 231-C.

³³⁰⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Panama," Section 5.

The President of Panama signed an Executive Decree to legalize Panama's list of the worst forms of child labor, as stipulated in ILO Convention No. 182 of the Worst Forms of Child Labor. The Decree became official law on June 19, 2006. The law lists 17 classes of work that are considered hazardous by their nature and 12 considered hazardous by their conditions.³³⁰¹

The Ministry of Labor, through its Child Labor Unit, is responsible for enforcing child labor laws, conducting child labor inspections, and imposing penalties on companies that do not comply with the law.³³⁰² At the end of 2006, 369 inspections had been conducted of businesses in the capital city and 139 inspections had been conducted in the interior of the country.³³⁰³ Children may file complaints about possible violations of their rights with the National Council for Children and Adolescents Rights; the Children's Delegate in the Ombudsperson's Office; or the Ministry of Youth, Women, Children, and Family Affairs.³³⁰⁴

The Ministry of Government and Justice is responsible for developing policies to combat trafficking in persons, and the Ministry of Social Development provides shelter and related services to victims.³³⁰⁵ The Technical Judicial Police has a special Sex Crimes Unit to investigate sex crimes, including child pornography and trafficking, although the U.S. Department of State noted that inadequate funding was allocated to the Unit.³³⁰⁶ The Attorney General's office has three prosecutors designated to handle trafficking in persons cases.³³⁰⁷

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

In June 2006, Panama adopted its first National Plan against Child Labor (2007-2011).³³⁰⁸ The Plan, developed by the National Commission for the Elimination of Child Labor and the Protection of the Adolescent Worker (CETIPPAT),³³⁰⁹ is comprised of various strategic components. These components include raising awareness, harmonizing national legislation with international conventions; enforcing child labor laws; improving national capacity to inspect and monitor child labor violations; improving the conditions of parents of working children; promoting the education and health of working children; promoting recreational

³³⁰¹ Ministry of Labor and Employment Development, *Decreto Ejecutivo Número 19 "Que aprueba la lista del trabajo infantil peligroso, en el marco de las peores formas del trabajo infantil.*, June 12, 2006; available from http://www.asamblea.gob.pa/GACETAS/2000/2006/25569_2006.PDF. See also U.S. Embassy- Panama, *reporting*, June 16, 2006. See also ILO-IPEC, *Country Program for Combating the Worst Forms of Child Labor in Panama*, final technical progress report, August 15, 2006, 6.

³³⁰² ILO-Committee of Experts, *Direct Request*, [1]. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Panama," section 6d.

³³⁰³ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Panama," Section 6d.

³³⁰⁴ UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Concluding Observations: Panama*, CRC/C15/Add.233, Geneva, June 30, 2004, 3.

³³⁰⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Panama," Section 5.

³³⁰⁶ *Ibid.*

³³⁰⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons- 2006: Panama (Tier 2)."

³³⁰⁸ U.S. Embassy- Panama, *reporting*, June 16, 2006. See also ILO-IPEC, *ILO-IPEC Country Program, final technical progress report*, 3.

³³⁰⁹ ILO-IPEC, *Ficha Pais: Panama*; available from http://www.oit.org.pe/ippec/documentos/ficha_pais_pan.pdf.

activities for children; and creating and maintaining a database of credible information.³³¹⁰ During 2006, the government also continued to implement its 12-year National Strategic Plan on Children and Adolescents (2003-2015) and the 2003-2006 National Action Plan on Children and Adolescents, which included strategies to address child labor and the sexual exploitation of children.³³¹¹

The government continues to participate in the second phase of a USDOL-funded USD 2 million program implemented by ILO-IPEC that aims to combat child labor in the rural and urban informal sectors.³³¹² The first phase, which ended in June 2006, withdrew 967 children and prevented 570 from engaging in exploitive labor.³³¹³ The second phase aims to withdraw 750 children and prevent an additional 750 from becoming engaged in exploitive labor.³³¹⁴ Panama is also part of a USDOL-funded USD 8.8 million regional project implemented by ILO-IPEC to combat the commercial sexual exploitation of children. The project aims to withdraw and prevent 230 children and adolescents from engaging in or becoming involved in such exploitation in Panama.³³¹⁵ Another USDOL-funded USD 3 million regional ILO-IPEC project to combat hazardous child labor in agriculture ended in June 2006. Panama participated in policy and capacity building activities, but no children were directly targeted for withdrawal or prevention in that program.³³¹⁶ The Government of Panama is also collaborating in a USD 3 million project funded by USDOL and implemented by Creative Associates International to combat child labor through education in Panama. The project aims to withdraw 2,420 children from exploitive work in agriculture and prevent 675 children from becoming engaged in such activities.³³¹⁷

The Ministry of Social Development (MIDES) supports and implements a number of programs that provide services to vulnerable children, including children engaged in exploitive child labor. Programs include shelters for child and adolescent victims of commercial sexual exploitation; a hotline for citizens to denounce incidents of exploitive child labor; and a Web site for the public to report cases that involve the commercial sexual exploitation or the trafficking of children.³³¹⁸ As part of the government's strategy to combat poverty, MIDES also

³³¹⁰ The National Committee for the Eradication of Child Labor and the Protection of the Adolescent Worker (CETIPPAT), *Plan Nacional de Erradicación del Trabajo Infantil y Protección de las Personas Adolescentes Trabajadoras 2007-2011*, June 2006, 71-82; available from http://www.oit.org.pe/ippec/documentos/plan_nacional_cetippat_completo.pdf.

³³¹¹ ILO-IPEC, *Country Program for Combating the Worst Forms of Child Labor in Panama*, technical progress report, Geneva, March 2004, 2.

³³¹² ILO-IPEC, *IPEC Country Program PHASE II*.

³³¹³ ILO-IPEC, *ILO-IPEC Country Program, final technical progress report*, 19.

³³¹⁴ ILO-IPEC, *IPEC Country Program PHASE II*, 33-35.

³³¹⁵ ILO-IPEC, *Contribution to the Prevention and Elimination of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children in Central America, Panama and the Dominican Republic*, Geneva, September 2005, 56.

³³¹⁶ ILO-IPEC, *Prevention and Progressive Elimination of Child Labour in Agriculture in Central America, Panama and the Dominican Republic (Phase II)*, September 2003, 32-33.

³³¹⁷ Creative Associates International, *Destino: Combating Exploitive Child Labor through Education in Panama: Project Document*, 11.

³³¹⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Panama," Section 5. See also Ministerio de Desarrollo Social, *MIDES trabaja para prevenir y erradicar la explotación sexual comercial*, [online] [cited April 11, 2007]; available from <http://www.mides.gob.pa/Images/Notasdeprensa/Nota%2023.pdf>. See also Ministerio de Desarrollo Social, *MIDES y OIT/IPEC realizan taller sobre explotación sexual comercial en niños, niñas y adolescentes*, [online] [cited April 11, 2007]; available from <http://www.mides.gob.pa/Images/Notasdeprensa/Nota%2039.pdf>. See also

provides services to families in situations of extreme poverty, which include a monthly stipend to female heads of household who commit to maintaining their school-aged children in school and participating in school activities.³³¹⁹ Also in 2006, MIDES, in collaboration with the ILO, produced and disseminated awareness-raising materials on commercial sexual exploitation, trafficking, and victim protection to public school teachers and the larger community.³³²⁰

The Institute for Human Resources, Capacity Building, and Vocational Training (IFARHU), an independent government agency with its own budget overseen by the Executive Branch, implements a scholarship program for children who have been withdrawn or prevented from exploitive labor. Between January and August 2006, IFARHU provided school scholarships to 2,174 children as part of its "Child Labor Eradication" sub-program.³³²¹ UNICEF is implementing a "community schools" program in the province of Chiriquí to discourage parents from sending children to work on coffee plantations.³³²²

The National Commission for the Prevention of Sexual Crimes (CONAPREDES) provides funding to assist victims.³³²³ CONAPREDES has implemented a media campaign against commercial sexual exploitation that included activities to educate journalists on trafficking issues and to warn adult males who seek commercial sex with minors.³³²⁴ Also in 2006, the government incorporated an anti-trafficking message into all lottery tickets nationwide.³³²⁵

Ministerio de Desarrollo Social, *Conoce al Centro de Orientación y Atención Integral*, [online] [cited April 11, 2007]; available from <http://www.mides.gov.pa/Centrodeorientacion.htm>. See also U.S. Embassy- Panama, *reporting, March 12, 2007*. See also ILO-IPEC, *IPEC Country Program PHASE II*, 6.

³³¹⁹ Ministerio de Desarrollo Social, *¿Qué es la Red de Oportunidades?*, [online] [cited April 11, 2007]; available from <http://www.mides.gov.pa/Contigopodemos.htm>.

³³²⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Panama," Section 5.

³³²¹ The Training and Human Resources Institute (IFARHU), *Historia de la Institucion*, [online] 2006 [cited January 22, 2007]; available from <http://www.ifarhu.gob.pa/historia.htm>. See also The Training and Human Resources Institute (IFARHU), *Instituto para la Formación y Aprovechamiento de Recursos Humanos, Dirección Ejecutiva de Planificación de Recursos Humanos, Departamento de Estadística, Becas Concedidas por el IFARHU en la República, Por Monto Anual, Según Subprograma: Enero a Agosto 2006*, [online] [cited April 11, 2007]; available from <http://www.ifarhu.gob.pa/estadisticas.htm>.

³³²² UNICEF, *At a Glance: Panama: UNICEF Brings Education to Indigenous Children in Panama*, [online] 2005 [cited October 12, 2006]; available from http://www.unicef.org/infobycountry/panama_25197.html?q=printme.

³³²³ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Panama," Section 5.

³³²⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons- 2006: Panama (Tier 2)."

³³²⁵ U.S. Embassy- Panama, *reporting, March 12, 2007*.

Papua New Guinea

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Children work in the commercial agriculture sector, including on tea and coffee farms.³³³³ Children are also seen selling food items on the streets of urban areas³³³⁴ and working as domestic servants³³³⁵. Children are involved in commercial sexual exploitation, typically working in bars or nightclubs.³³³⁶

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working:	Unavailable
Minimum age of work:	16 ³³²⁶
Age to which education is compulsory:	Not compulsory ³³²⁷
Free public education:	No ³³²⁸
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2003:	75% ³³²⁹
Net primary enrollment rate:	Unavailable
Percent of children 5-14 attending school:	Unavailable
As of 2001, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	69% ³³³⁰
Ratified Convention 138:	6/02/2000 ³³³¹
Ratified Convention 182:	6/02/2000 ³³³²
ILO-IPEC participating country:	No

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

Papua New Guinean law sets the minimum age for employment at 16 years, and protects children under 18 years from working in hazardous conditions.³³³⁷ Children 11 to 18 may work in family businesses with parental permission, medical clearance, and a work permit from the

³³²⁶ Government of Papua New Guinea, *Report to ILO Committee of Experts on Convention 182*, September 2005.

³³²⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Papua New Guinea." In *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices 2006*, Washington, DC, March 7, 2007.

³³²⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Papua New Guinea," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007.

³³²⁹ UCW analysis of, *ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, March 1 2007.

³³³⁰ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *School Life Expectancy, % of Repeaters, Survival Rates*; accessed December 2005; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/TableViewer/tableView.aspx?ReportId=55>.

³³³¹ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, [accessed November 7, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/iloex/cgilex/ratifce.pl?PapuaNewGuinea>.

³³³² Ibid.

³³³³ Department of Community Development official, Interview with USDOL consultant, June 20, 2006. See also Department of Labor and Industrial Relations officials, Interview with USDOL consultant, June 26 2006.

³³³⁴ Department of Community Development official, Interview, June 20, 2006.

³³³⁵ UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Consideration of Reports Submitted By States Parties Under Article 44 of the Convention, Concluding Observations: Papua New Guinea*, CRC/C/15/Add.229, February 26, 2004, para. 57. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Papua New Guinea.", U.S. Department of State, "Papua New Guinea," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2005*, Washington, DC, March 8, 2006, Section 5.

³³³⁶ UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Concluding Observations, February 26, 2004*, para. 59. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Papua New Guinea."

³³³⁷ Government of Papua New Guinea, *Report to ILO Committee of Experts, September 2005, Article 3(d)*. Article 3(d).

labor office.³³³⁸ Work performed by children between 11 and 16 years must not interfere with school attendance.³³³⁹ Work by children under 11 years is prohibited.³³⁴⁰ Penalties for child labor violations range from a fine to 2 years of imprisonment.³³⁴¹

The law prohibits forced labor, including by children.³³⁴² Procuring girls under 18 years for sexual relations or obtaining financial gain from the prostitution of minors is also prohibited by law.³³⁴³ There is no compulsory military service in Papua New Guinea, and the minimum age for voluntary military service is 16.³³⁴⁴

The Department of Labor and Industrial Relations and the Department of Police are responsible for implementing and enforcing child labor laws; however, the U.S. Department of State reports that enforcement by those departments has been poor and that no inspectors specifically address child labor.³³⁴⁵

Current Government Efforts to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Government of Papua New Guinea is working with the Papua New Guinea Children's Foundation and People Against Child Exploitation to implement the National Action Plan against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children 2006-2011.³³⁴⁶

UNICEF, with the support of the government, is also implementing a child protection program that includes advocacy for the elimination of the worst forms of child labor.³³⁴⁷

³³³⁸ U.S. Department of State, *Country Reports- 2006: Papua New Guinea*.

³³³⁹ U. S. Embassy- Port Moresby, *reporting*, September 14, 2005.

³³⁴⁰ Department of Labor and Industrial Relations officials, Interview, June 26, 2006.

³³⁴¹ U. S. Embassy- Port Moresby, *reporting* December 15, 2006.

³³⁴² U.S. Department of State, *Country Reports- 2006: Papua New Guinea*."

³³⁴³ HELP Resources Inc. with UNICEF, *A Situational Analysis of Child Sexual Abuse and the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children in Papua New Guinea*, January 2005, 98.

³³⁴⁴ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Papua New Guinea," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*. London, 2004; available from <http://www.child-soldiers.org/cs/childsoldiers.nsf/Report/Global%20Report%202001%20GLOBAL%20REPORT%20CONTENTS?OpenDocument>.

³³⁴⁵ U. S. Embassy- Port Moresby, *reporting*, September 14, 2005.

³³⁴⁶ PACE PNG Children's Foundation Inc., and UNICEF, *The National Action Plan Against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children in Papua New Guinea (July 2006-June 2011)*, 2006, 5.

³³⁴⁷ UNICEF, *Master Plan of Operations: Programme of Cooperation Between Government of Papua New Guinea and UNICEF*, Attachment A, 1-2.

Paraguay

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

The majority of working children in Paraguay in 1999 were found in the agricultural sector (52.9 percent), followed by services (41.7 percent), manufacturing (4.0 percent), and other sectors (1.4 percent). Approximately 9.4 percent of all boys ages 5 to 14 were working compared to 3.5 percent of girls in the same age group.³³⁵⁸ Boys work

principally in agriculture and unskilled manual labor.³³⁵⁹ Girls work in the same sectors, as well as in the service and sales sectors,³³⁶⁰ including as domestic servants in third-party

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 1999:	6.5% ³³⁴⁸
Minimum age for admission to work:	12 ³³⁴⁹
Age to which education is compulsory:	14 ³³⁵⁰
Free public education:	Yes ³³⁵¹ *
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2003:	106% ³³⁵²
Net primary enrollment rate:	Unavailable
Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 1999:	87% ³³⁵³
As of 2002, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	81% ³³⁵⁴
Ratified Convention 138:	3/3/2004 ³³⁵⁵
Ratified Convention 182:	3/7/2001 ³³⁵⁶
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Yes ³³⁵⁷
*Must pay for school supplies and related items.	

³³⁴⁸ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, March 1, 2007.

³³⁴⁹ Government of Paraguay, *Que Modifica, Amplia y Deroga Artículos de la Ley 213/93, Código del Trabajo*, Articles 36 and 389; available from <http://www.senado.gov.py/leyes/>.

³³⁵⁰ Government of Paraguay, *Ley General de Educación*, 1.264, Article 32; available from <http://www.senado.gov.py>. See also UNESCO, *Education for All Global Monitoring Report*, 2006; available from <http://gmr.uis.unesco.org>.

³³⁵¹ Government of Paraguay, *Ley General de Educación*, Article 32. See also UNESCO, *EFA Global Monitoring Report*, 84.

³³⁵² UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006 available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

³³⁵³ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, October 7, 2005.

³³⁵⁴ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Survival Rate to Grade 5. Total*, accessed December 18, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

³³⁵⁵ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, accessed October 18, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/newratframeE.htm>.

³³⁵⁶ Ibid.

³³⁵⁷ ILO, *IPEC Action Against Child Labor: Highlights 2006*, [online] February, 2007 [cited March 29 2007]; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ippec/prod/eng/20070228_Implementationreport_en_Web.pdf.

³³⁵⁸ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

³³⁵⁹ Roberto Céspedes, *Seguimiento de Indicadores sobre la Niñez Trabajadora de Paraguay según la Encuesta de Hogares*, ILO-IPEC, UNICEF, Asuncion, 2003, 29; available from http://www.oit.org.pe/ippec/boletin/documentos/estadisticas_py.pdf.

³³⁶⁰ Ibid., 30.

homes.³³⁶¹ Under the practice of *criadazgo*, many child domestic servants do not receive salaries, but work in exchange for room, board, and financial support for schooling. These child domestic workers are sometimes subject to sexual exploitation. Many children work on the streets in the informal sector, including as newspaper and sundries vendors and as car window washers. Children who work on the streets or who work under the *criadazgo* system often lack access to education.³³⁶²

According to a 2004 ILO-IPEC report, the number of children in commercial sexual exploitation is estimated to be 3,700 and is believed to be concentrated in three cities of the country (Asunción, Ciudad del Este, Encarnación). In April 2006, the ILO estimated that during 2005 more than 3,500 children ages 5 to 17 had been sexually exploited in Ciudad del Este and that there were 250 minor girl prostitutes in the city.³³⁶³ Girls are trafficked along the Brazil-Paraguay-Argentina border for commercial sexual exploitation. There are also reports of Paraguayan children trafficked to Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, and Spain.³³⁶⁴ Poor rural children are trafficked internally to urban areas for commercial sexual exploitation and forced domestic labor. Paraguayan children reportedly are also exploited in neighboring countries for forced domestic labor.³³⁶⁵

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

Children older than 12 years may enter into work contracts, with parental authorization. Fines are established for employing children under age 12.³³⁶⁶ The minimum age for employment in industrial work is 15 years, with exceptions for children over 12 years working in authorized professional schools and family businesses where the work is not dangerous.³³⁶⁷ Children 14 to 16 years may not work more than 4 hours per day and 24 hours per week. Children 16 to 18 years may not work more than 6 hours per day and 36 hours per week. The maximum daily work hours are reduced to 4 for adolescents that are attending school.³³⁶⁸ Fines are established for employing children under 18 for nighttime industrial work.³³⁶⁹

³³⁶¹ ILO-IPEC, *Prevención y Eliminación del Trabajo Infantil Doméstico en Sudamérica: Evaluación Rápida sobre Trabajo Infantil Doméstico en Paraguay*, Lima, June 2002, 9, 19, and 20; available from http://www.oit.org.pe/ippec/documentos/ev_tid_paraguay.pdf.

³³⁶² *Ibid.*, 43, 71-72, and 76. See also Mike Kaye, *Contemporary Forms of Slavery in Paraguay*, Anti-Slavery International, 2006, 20 and 21; available from <http://www.antislavery.org/homepage/resources/PDF/PDFslavery.htm>.

³³⁶³ U.S. Department of State, "Paraguay," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78901.htm>. See also ILO-IPEC, *Prevention and Elimination of Child Domestic Labour (CDL) and of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) in Chile, Colombia, Paraguay and Peru*, project document, RLA/00/P53/USA, Geneva, September 30, 2004, 19.

³³⁶⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Paraguay," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2007*, Washington, DC, March 5, 2007.

³³⁶⁵ *Ibid.* See also U.S. Department of State, "Paraguay," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2006, Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/>. See also Mike Kaye, *Contemporary Forms of Slavery in Paraguay*, 9-10.

³³⁶⁶ Government of Paraguay, *Código del Trabajo, Modificado 1995*, Articles 36 and 389.

³³⁶⁷ *Ibid.*, Article 119.

³³⁶⁸ Government of Paraguay, *Código de la Niñez y la Adolescencia*, 1680, (May 30, 2001), Article 58; available from <http://www.senado.gov.py/leyes/>.

³³⁶⁹ Government of Paraguay, *Código del Trabajo, Modificado 1995*, Article 389.

Adolescents 14 to 17 may be sent to locations different than specified in the original work contract, as long as they are not uprooted from their families and they remain in school.³³⁷⁰ Employers are required to maintain a registry containing biographical information on adolescent employees and to register adolescent employees with the Ministry of Justice and Labor and the Council for Children's Rights (CODENI).³³⁷¹ Adolescents 15 to 18 year olds who work must have a birth certificate, an annual certificate of physical and mental health, and their guardian's authorization to work. Minors are to be paid at least 60 percent of the legal minimum salary for unspecified labor, and if a minor performs the same work as an adult, he or she must be paid the established legal minimum wage.³³⁷² As stated in the legal code for children and adolescents, employers of adolescent domestic workers must facilitate their school attendance, provide the adolescent with food and a separate bedroom, and register the adolescent with the social security system.³³⁷³ Authorization from the adolescent's guardian is needed for domestic work, and the appropriate Municipal Council for Children and Adolescent's Rights must be notified if the adolescent is moved to another location.³³⁷⁴

Employing anyone under 18 years in work that may be harmful to his/her well-being is prohibited and punishable by fines.³³⁷⁵ The "List of Work Endangering Children" decree prohibits minors under 18 from working in 26 broad classifications of work, including crossing national borders, operating dangerous machinery, working as a domestic servant (with exceptions for those 16 and older), and working between 7 p.m. and 7 a.m.³³⁷⁶ Although the practice of *criadazgo* and child domestic labor are on this list, the Department of Legal Affairs states that *criadazgo* is not completely prohibited for children 16 and older as long as the provisions laid out in the legal code for children and adolescents are followed.³³⁷⁷

The commercial sexual exploitation of children and adolescents is prohibited.³³⁷⁸ Penalties of up to 5 years of incarceration or fines are imposed for inducing the prostitution of someone under 18. If the perpetrator acts for profit, or if the victim is under 14, the penalty can increase.³³⁷⁹ Profiting from the prostitution of a person is punishable by up to 5 years of incarceration.³³⁸⁰

The production of child pornography is punishable by 5 to 10 years of incarceration; a prison term of 3 to 8 years applies for the distribution of such material. The use of anyone under 18 in sexually explicit performances carries a prison sentence of 3 to 10 years. Increased penalties apply if the crimes relating to child pornography and sexually explicit performances were

³³⁷⁰ Government of Paraguay, *Código de la Niñez y la Adolescencia*, Article 59.

³³⁷¹ *Ibid.*, Articles 60 and 61. See also Government of Paraguay, *Código del Trabajo, Modificado 1995*, Article 124.

³³⁷² Government of Paraguay, *Código del Trabajo*, No. 213, (June 15, 1993), Article 126; available from <http://www.senado.gov.py/leyes/>.

³³⁷³ Government of Paraguay, *Código de la Niñez y la Adolescencia*, Articles 63, 64, and 65.

³³⁷⁴ *Ibid.*, Articles 66.

³³⁷⁵ *Ibid.*, Article 54. See also Government of Paraguay, *Código del Trabajo, Modificado 1995*, Articles 352 and 389.

³³⁷⁶ Government of Paraguay, *El Listado de Trabajo Infantil Peligroso*, Decree 4951, (March 22, 2005); available from <http://www.presidencia.gov.py/decretos/D4951.pdf>.

³³⁷⁷ *Ibid.* See also Government of Paraguay, *Código de la Niñez y la Adolescencia*. See also Paraguayan Embassy official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, July 2, 2006.

³³⁷⁸ Government of Paraguay, *Código de la Niñez y la Adolescencia*, Chapter II, Article 31.

³³⁷⁹ *Código Penal*, No. 1.160, Article 139; available from

<http://www.unifr.ch/derechopenal/legislacion/pa/cpparaidx.htm>.

³³⁸⁰ *Ibid.*, Article 140.

done for profit or by a member of an organized group.³³⁸¹ Slavery and trafficking in persons are prohibited.³³⁸² The maximum prison term is 10 years for trafficking a minor for labor or sexual exploitation, or for forcing, deceiving, or coercing a person to leave the country.³³⁸³ Although the law establishes 18 years as the minimum age for conscription into the military, boys younger than 18 may join the military in exceptional circumstances.³³⁸⁴

According to the U.S. Department of State, the government generally does not enforce minimum age requirements for employment. The Secretariats for Women, for Repatriations, and for Childhood and Adolescence (SNNA) have limited effectiveness for combating trafficking and providing assistance to victims because of budgetary constraints; also, the borders are not well controlled.³³⁸⁵ However, the government has arrested individuals for crimes involving child trafficking.³³⁸⁶

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The government worked to implement the National Plan for the Eradication and Prevention of Child Labor (2003-2008). The plan's objectives include data collection, publicity and education, training, improved legal protections and public policy, and implementation of a monitoring system and interventions.³³⁸⁷ SNNA participates in and organizes programs on human trafficking and child labor, including child domestic servants.³³⁸⁸ The Secretariat for Social Action, with assistance from UNICEF, provides services to children who work on the streets.³³⁸⁹ The government offered some financial support to NGOs that provide services to children who live on the streets or are victims of commercial sexual exploitation.³³⁹⁰ The

³³⁸¹ Government of Paraguay, *Que reprime el comercio y la difusión comercial o no comercial de material pornográfico, utilizando la imagen u otra representación de menores o incapaces*, 2861, (January 17, 2006), Articles 1, 2, 3, and 5; available from www.senado.gov.py/leyes/.

³³⁸² Government of Paraguay, *Constitución Nacional de La República del Paraguay*, (June 20, 1992), Articles 10 and 54; available from <http://www.senado.gov.py/leyes/>.

³³⁸³ *Código Penal*, Articles 125 and 223.

³³⁸⁴ Child Rights Information Network, *Paraguay pide perdón público por el reclutamiento ilegal de muerte de dos niños*, [online] June 6, 2006 [cited April 4, 2007]; available from <http://www.crin.org/resources/find.asp>. See also, Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Paraguay," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, London, 2004; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=835.

³³⁸⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Paraguay."

³³⁸⁶ *Ibid.*, Section 5.

³³⁸⁷ National Commission for the Prevention and Eradication of Child Labor and the Labor Protection for Adolescents, *Plan Nacional de Prevención y Erradicación del Trabajo Infantil y Protección del Trabajo de los Adolescentes*, 2-3; available from http://www.oit.org.pe/ipecc/documentos/plan_paraguay.pdf. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Paraguay," Section 6d.

³³⁸⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Paraguay," Section 5.

³³⁸⁹ Secretariat of Social Action, *Abrazo: programa para la disminución progresiva del trabajo infantil en las calles*, Asuncion. See also Secretariat of Social Action, *Resultados del Programa. Mes de Julio*, Asuncion, October 8, 2006; available from <http://www.sas.gov.py>.

³³⁹⁰ ILO-IPEC, *Prevention and Elimination of Child Domestic Work and of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children in Colombia, Chile, Paraguay, and Peru, technical progress report*, Geneva, March 6, 2006, 3.

National Plan for the Prevention and Eradication of Child Sexual Exploitation, along with the child labor plan, is part of the National Policy for Childhood and Adolescence (2003-2013).³³⁹¹

The Government of Paraguay and the other governments of MERCOSUR developed the “Niño Sur” (“Southern Child”) initiative to defend the rights of children and adolescents in the region. The initiative has focused on countering the sexual exploitation of children and adolescents (including trafficking), child labor, and improving youth criminal justice systems. Action strategies include the harmonization of legal frameworks, unified public campaigns and joint actions in border cities.³³⁹²

The government participates in a regional USDOL-funded ILO-IPEC project targeting children involved in commercial sexual exploitation and domestic labor. This project seeks to withdraw 2,185 children from exploitive child labor situations and prevent an additional 2,920 children from engaging in child labor.³³⁹³ Government secretariats participated in and implemented activities including the creation of an anti-trafficking handbook, inter-institutional meetings on trafficking, and awareness-raising campaigns on trafficking and child pornography.³³⁹⁴ A public utility jointly owned by the Paraguayan and Brazilian Governments, Itaipu Binational, supports an NGO that operates a hotline and shelter for trafficking victims in Ciudad del Este.³³⁹⁵ The government works to repatriate trafficking victims, usually through NGOs, and provides legal, medical, and psychological services to trafficking victims in Asuncion.³³⁹⁶

The Ministry of Education and Culture requires that all schools gather information on the working status of children.³³⁹⁷

³³⁹¹ Government of Paraguay, *Decreto No. 2616*, (May 31,), Article 2; available from http://www.oit.org.pe/ippec/documentos/planes_grales_py.pdf. See also Committee for the Rights of Children and Adolescents, ILO, and UNICEF, *Plan Nacional de Prevención y Erradicación de la Explotación Sexual de Niñas, Niños, y Adolescentes en Paraguay*, December 2003; available from http://www.oit.org.pe/ippec/documentos/plan_esci_py.pdf.

³³⁹² Ministry of Justice, *Países do Mercosul anunciam campanha conjunta de Combate à Exploração Sexual de Crianças e Adolescentes*, [online] August 29, 2006 [cited October 21 2006]; available from http://www.mj.gov.br/sedh/ct/conanda/noticias2_teste.asp?id=1380. See also Ministry of Justice, *Combate à Exploração Sexual de Crianças e Adolescente é Meta no Mercosul*, [online] August 24, 2006 [cited October 21 2006]; available from http://www.mj.gov.br/sedh/ct/conanda/noticias2_teste.asp?id=1373.

³³⁹³ ILO-IPEC, *Prevention and Elimination of Child Domestic Labour and of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children*, project document.

³³⁹⁴ ILO-IPEC, *Prevention and Elimination of Child Domestic Work and of Commercial Sexual Exploitation*, technical progress report. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Paraguay," Section 5. See also U.S. Embassy- Asuncion, *reporting*, April 26, 2006.

³³⁹⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Paraguay," Section 5.

³³⁹⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Paraguay (Tier 2)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/>. See also Mike Kaye, *Contemporary Forms of Slavery in Paraguay*, 14.

³³⁹⁷ U.S. Department of State, *reporting*, August 25, 2005.

Peru

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2000, approximately 24 percent of boys and 20.5 percent of girls ages 6 to 14 were working in Peru. The majority of working children were found in the agricultural sector (73.2 percent), followed by services (23.9 percent), manufacturing (2.7 percent), and other sectors (0.2 percent).³⁴⁰⁹ Children work with their families in agriculture

and artisanal mining or as domestics. In the cities, children often sell goods and services in the streets, and work in garbage dumps. In the outskirts of Lima, children work in the brick

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 6-14 estimated as working in 2000:	22.3% ³³⁹⁸
Minimum age for admission to work:	14 ³³⁹⁹
Age to which education is compulsory:	16 ³⁴⁰⁰
Free public education:	Yes ³⁴⁰¹
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:	114% ³⁴⁰²
Net primary enrollment rate in 2004:	97% ³⁴⁰³
Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 2000:	96.6% ³⁴⁰⁴
As of 2003, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	90% ³⁴⁰⁵
Ratified Convention 138:	11/13/2002 ³⁴⁰⁶
Ratified Convention 182:	1/10/2002 ³⁴⁰⁷
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Yes ³⁴⁰⁸

³³⁹⁸ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, December 20, 2006.

³³⁹⁹ Government of Peru, *Ley que Modifica el Artículo 51 de la Ley No. 27337, Código de los Niños y Adolescentes*; available from <http://www.cajpe.org.pe/rij/bases/legisla/peru/27571.htm>.

³⁴⁰⁰ UNESCO, *Education for All - EFA Global Monitoring Report 2007*, 2007; available from <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0014/001477/147794E.pdf>.

³⁴⁰¹ El Presidente de la República, *Ley General de Educación*, 28044, Lima, July 17, 2003.

³⁴⁰² UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross and Net Enrolment Ratios, Primary*; accessed December 2005; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/TableViewer/tableView.aspx?ReportId=51>.

³⁴⁰³ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

³⁴⁰⁴ SIMPOC, MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

³⁴⁰⁵ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Survival Rate to Grade 5. Total*, accessed December 18, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

³⁴⁰⁶ ILO, *Ratifications of the Fundamental Human Rights Convention by country*, [database online] 2006 [cited December 29, 2006]; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/docs/declworld.htm>.

³⁴⁰⁷ Ibid.

³⁴⁰⁸ ILO, *Ficha País: Peru*, [cited December 29, 2006]; available from

<http://www.oit.org.pe/ipecc/documentos/fichaperu.pdf>.

³⁴⁰⁹ SIMPOC, MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

making industry.³⁴¹⁰ Children and their families are reportedly held captive in remote areas as they work in food and coca crops for narco-traffickers and terrorists.³⁴¹¹

Peru is a source country for children trafficked internally for commercial sexual exploitation and forced domestic labor. Most victims are girls moved from rural to urban areas or from city to city to work in prostitution at nightclubs, bars, and brothels. Children are also exploited in prostitution.³⁴¹² The UN Committee on the Rights of the Child reports that there are 500,000 child victims of sexual exploitation and violence in the country.³⁴¹³

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The minimum age for employment in non-industrial agricultural work is 15 years; for work in the industrial, commercial, and surface mining sectors it is 16 years; and for work in the industrial fishing sector it is 17 years. Although the general minimum age for employment in Peru is 14 years, the provisions subsequently described in this paragraph restrict the ability of children of that age or younger to work legally.³⁴¹⁴ Children 12 to 14 may perform certain jobs, subject to restrictions, only if they obtain legal permission from the corresponding government authorities, can certify that the job is not hazardous, and is not limiting their ability to attend school or training.³⁴¹⁵ The Ministry of Labor's Office of Labor Protection for Minors (PMT) issues permits for children between 12 to 17 to work legally.³⁴¹⁶ Children 12 to 14 years are prohibited from working more than 4 hours a day, or more than 24 hours a week; adolescents 15 to 17 years may not work more than 6 hours a day, or more than 36 hours a week.³⁴¹⁷ Children working non-paid jobs for family members or in domestic service are entitled to a 12-hour rest period and must have access to education.³⁴¹⁸ Regulations require that adolescents working in paid or unpaid domestic service must have access to education.³⁴¹⁹ Night work is prohibited for children under 18 years, but a special permit can be issued for adolescents between 15 to 17 years for a maximum of 4 hours' work a night.³⁴²⁰ Underground work or work that involves heavy lifting, toxic substances, or responsibility for the safety of one's self

³⁴¹⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Peru," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78902.htm>. See also CRC - Committee on the Rights of the Child, March 14, 2006; available from [http://www.unhcr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/898586b1dc7b4043c1256a450044f331/b67fbbfa8f470bdfc125715600319d7e/\\$FILE/G0640887.doc.](http://www.unhcr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/898586b1dc7b4043c1256a450044f331/b67fbbfa8f470bdfc125715600319d7e/$FILE/G0640887.doc.), para 62.

³⁴¹¹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Peru." Section 6d.

³⁴¹² ECPAT International, *Peru*, [database online] [cited July 1, 2005], Child Prostitution; available from http://www.ecpat.net/eng/Ecpat_inter/projects/monitoring/online_database/index.asp. See also U.S. Department of State, *Country Reports- 2006: Peru*, Section 5.

³⁴¹³ CRC - Committee on the Rights of the Child, *CRC - Committee on the Rights of the Child.*, para 67.

³⁴¹⁴ Government of Peru, *Ley que Aprueba el Nuevo Código de los Niños y Adolescentes*, *Ley no. 27337*; available from <http://www.cajpe.org.pe/rij/bases/legisla/peru/ley1.html>.

³⁴¹⁵ Government of Peru, *Ley que Modifica el Artículo 51*. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Peru."

³⁴¹⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Peru." Section 6d.

³⁴¹⁷ Government of Peru, *Ley que Aprueba el Nuevo Código de los Niños y Adolescentes*, *Ley no. 27337*. Book 1, Chapter 1, Article 56.

³⁴¹⁸ *Ibid.*, Article 63. See also U.S. Embassy-Lima, *unclassified telegram no. 4110*, August 25, 2004.

³⁴¹⁹ Government of Peru, *Ley que Aprueba el Nuevo Código de los Niños y Adolescentes*, *Ley no. 27337.*, Articles 61 and 63.

³⁴²⁰ *Ibid.*, Article 57.

and other workers is prohibited for children under 18 years.³⁴²¹ In July 2006, a Hazardous Occupations for Children list was approved. The list includes activities linked to commercial sexual exploitation and domestic work.³⁴²² Working adolescents must be paid at the same rate as adult workers in similar jobs.³⁴²³

Peruvian law prohibits forced and slave labor, economically exploitive labor, and prostitution.³⁴²⁴ The law prohibits the promotion of prostitution, with a penalty of 2 to 5 years imprisonment. The penalty increases to four to 12 years' imprisonment if the victim is under 14 years of age or if the perpetrator abuses a position of authority or uses violence, deceit, or any means of intimidation.³⁴²⁵ Peru's Penal Code also prohibits pimping. The penalty for this offense is 6 to 12 years if the victim is under age 18 or if violent threats, abuse of a position of authority, or other means of coercion are used.³⁴²⁶ Statutes prohibit trafficking in persons and provide penalties of 10 to 15 years of imprisonment for those who move a person under 8 years, either within the country or to an area outside the country, for sexual exploitation (including prostitution, sexual slavery, and pornography).³⁴²⁷ The penalty for trafficking or promoting sexual tourism exploiting adolescents ages 14 to 18 is 2 to 6 years in prison. The penalty is 6 to 8 years if the victim is under 14, and, in case of involvement by a government officials or child's guardian, the penalty is 8 to 10 years in prison.³⁴²⁸ Military service is voluntary and prohibited for children under 18.³⁴²⁹

The Ministry of Labor is responsible for enforcing child labor laws, and its inspectors have legal authority to investigate reports of illegal child labor practices. During 2006, the PMT issued 1,326 work permits for children 12 to 17, the majority of which (1,086) were issued for children between 16 and 17.³⁴³⁰ Also in 2006, the Ministry had 236 labor inspectors, with 150 of them working in Lima and focusing on the formal sector of the economy.³⁴³¹ The National Police and local prosecutors have law enforcement authority over child labor violations, and the Prevention Centers for Children and Adolescents (DEMUNA) investigate all violations of the Child and Adolescent Code.³⁴³² More than 1,000 DEMUNA offices operate throughout the country.³⁴³³

³⁴²¹ Ibid., Article 58.

³⁴²² ILO-IPEC, *The Prevention and Elimination of Child Domestic Labour and CSEC in South America*, technical progress report, September 2006.

³⁴²³ Government of Peru, *Ley que Aprueba el Nuevo Código de los Niños y Adolescentes*, Ley no. 27337., Article 59.

³⁴²⁴ Government of Peru, *Ley que Aprueba el Nuevo Código de los Niños y Adolescentes*, Ley no. 27337., Article 4.

³⁴²⁵ Ibid., Article 179.

³⁴²⁶ Ibid., Article 181.

³⁴²⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Peru." Section 5.

³⁴²⁸ U.S. Embassy- Lima, *reporting*, Lima, March 8, 2007.

³⁴²⁹ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004-Peru*, electronic, 2004; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/resources/global-reports?root_id=159&category_id=165.

³⁴³⁰ Ibid., Section 6d.

³⁴³¹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Peru." Section 6d.

³⁴³² Estudio Torres y Torres Lara, *Directiva No. 19-95-DIVIPOLNA Sobre Atención y Intervención Policial con Niños y Adolescentes (25 de abril de 1995)*, [cited July 1, 2005]; available from <http://www.asesor.com.pe/teleley/direc-19-95.htm>.

³⁴³³ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Peru." Section 6d.

The Ministry of the Interior and the National Police are the entities responsible for addressing domestic trafficking, while the Foreign Ministry and Immigration authorities work on international trafficking issues.³⁴³⁴ During 2006, 2,901 police operations were conducted to combat trafficking in persons, procurement, and child prostitution.³⁴³⁵ During the year, prosecutors were processing six trafficking cases from 2005, and as of July, the police passed four additional cases regarding trafficking crimes to prosecutors for further investigation. A total of 23 persons were arrested for trafficking children; charges were brought against seven of the accused.³⁴³⁶ The U.S. Department of State reports that the Government of Peru has not increased trafficking prosecutions and convictions since 2005.³⁴³⁷ There was only one trial and conviction reported in 2006.³⁴³⁸

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

Through the National Committee to Prevent and Eradicate Child Labor (CPETI), the government of Peru works with NGOs, labor unions, and employers' organizations within the country to implement the National Plan for the Prevention and Eradication of Child Labor.³⁴³⁹ The plan focuses on strategic areas such as raising awareness, strengthening judicial and legislative frameworks, generating credible statistics and research, developing social policies based on children's rights, and strengthening institutional capacities.³⁴⁴⁰

In 2006, CPETI approved the National Plan against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Boys, Girls and Adolescents.³⁴⁴¹ The Ministry of Women and Social Development (MIMDES) implements the 2002-2010 National Action Plan for Children and Adolescents. The plan focuses on, among other goals, eliminating the worst forms of child labor for children 6 to 11 years and improving working conditions for adolescents at or above the legal working age.³⁴⁴²

The Government of Peru supports and contributes to a USD 5.5 million regional USDOL-funded ILO-IPEC program to eliminate exploitive child labor in the domestic service and commercial sex sectors.³⁴⁴³ The Peru component of this project aims to withdraw 130 children from commercial sex and 120 children from exploitive domestic work, and to

³⁴³⁴ U.S. Department of State, *Country Reports- 2004: Peru*, Section 5.

³⁴³⁵ U.S. Embassy- Lima, *reporting*, April 24, 2007.

³⁴³⁶ U.S. Department of State, *Country Reports –2006: Peru*, Section 5.

³⁴³⁷ U.S. Department of State, *Trafficking in Persons Interim Assessment*, January 19, 2007.

³⁴³⁸ U.S. Department of State, *Country Reports –2006: Peru*, Section 5.

³⁴³⁹ Ministry of Labor and Employment Promotion, *CPETI*, [cited October 19, 2006]; available from http://www.mintra.gob.pe/sst_dpm_cpeti.php.

³⁴⁴⁰ Comité Directivo Nacional para la Prevención y Erradicación del Trabajo Infantil (CPETI), *Plan Nacional de Prevención y Erradicación del Trabajo Infantil*, 2005.

³⁴⁴¹ ILO-IPEC, *The Prevention and Elimination of CDL and CSEC, technical progress report.*, September 2006, p 11.

³⁴⁴² Government of Perú, *Plan Nacional de Acción para la Infancia y la Adolescencia 2002 - 2010: Construyendo un Perú Mejor para la Niñas, Niños y Adolescentes*, 2002; available from <http://www.minmimdes.gob.pe/indiceorg.htm> [hard copy on file].

³⁴⁴³ U.S. Department of Labor - International Child Labor Program, *Prevention and Elimination of Child Domestic Labor (CDL) and of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) in Chile, Colombia, Paraguay and Peru, Project Summary*, Project Summary, 2004.

prevent 999 children from becoming engaged in such activities.³⁴⁴⁴ The government also participated in a USD 1.5 million 4-year project to combat child labor through education that ended in 2006. The project withdrew 108 children and prevented 544 children from small-scale traditional mining.³⁴⁴⁵ Starting in 2006, the Government of Peru began participating in a new USD 5 million USDOL-funded project to combat child labor through education. This project targets 5,250 children 11-15 for withdrawal and 5,250 children for prevention from exploitive work in the urban informal sector in the poorest districts of Lima, Callao, Trujillo, and Iquitos.³⁴⁴⁶ A 2006 IDB technical cooperation project supports community groups in implementing actions to reduce child labor in mining, and provide alternative income-generation activities.³⁴⁴⁷

The Government of Peru coordinates anti-trafficking activities with NGOs, supporting programs that provide shelters for victims, medical attention, job training, and self-esteem workshops. The Ministry of Interior established a toll-free number to report trafficking crimes, which has received an average of 1,000 calls per month since March. Approximately 15 percent of the calls were found to be related to trafficking crimes. National Police officers have been trained to operate a computerized tracking system for trafficking cases designed and installed by a national NGO.³⁴⁴⁸

The Government of Peru, with support from the U.S. Government, receives specialized training on issues related to trafficking in persons, including providing aid to victims, collecting credible statistical data on trafficking cases, and aiding government officials outside of the capital in recognizing cases.

³⁴⁴⁴ ILO-IPEC, *The Prevention and Elimination of CDL and CSEC, technical progress report*.

³⁴⁴⁵ U. S. Department of Labor, *EduFuturo: Educating Artisanal Mining Children in Peru for a Dignified Future*, project summary, September 16, 2002.

³⁴⁴⁶ U.S. Department of Labor - International Child Labor Program, *Preparándonos para la vida, Project Summary*, Project Summary, 2006.

³⁴⁴⁷ Inter-American Development Bank, *Reduce Child Labor in Artisanal Gold-mining Communities in Puno*, 2006 [cited October 19, 2006]; available from <http://www.iadb.org/templates/global/print.cfm?language=English&page=/projects/include>.

³⁴⁴⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Peru," Section 5.

Philippines

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2001, approximately 13.4 percent of boys and 8.4 percent of girls ages 5 to 14 were working in the Philippines. The majority of working children were found in the agricultural sector (65.3 percent), followed by services (29.4 percent), manufacturing (4.2 percent) and other sectors (1.1 percent).³⁴⁶⁰ Children

work on sugarcane plantations,³⁴⁶¹ on banana, coconut, and rice plantations,³⁴⁶² in pyrotechnics production, deep-sea fishing, mining, and quarrying.³⁴⁶³ Children living on the streets engage in informal labor

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 2001:	11% ³⁴⁴⁹
Minimum age for admission to work:	15 ³⁴⁵⁰
Age to which education is compulsory:	11 ³⁴⁵¹
Free public education:	Yes ³⁴⁵²
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:	112% ³⁴⁵³
Net primary enrollment rate in 2004:	94% ³⁴⁵⁴
Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 2001:	87.6% ³⁴⁵⁵
As of 2003, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	75% ³⁴⁵⁶
Ratified Convention 138:	6/4/98 ³⁴⁵⁷
Ratified Convention 182:	11/28/00 ³⁴⁵⁸
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Yes ³⁴⁵⁹

³⁴⁴⁹ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, March 1, 2007.

³⁴⁵⁰ Government of the Philippines, *Philippines Labour Code*, (1993); available from <http://natlex.ilo.org/txt/E98PHL01.htm>. See also Government of the Philippines, *Republic Act No. 7658* (November 9, 1993); available from <http://www.pctc.gov.ph/initiatv/RA7658.htm>. See also Government of the Philippines, *Republic Act No. 9231*, (December 19, 2003).

³⁴⁵¹ Government of the Philippines, *Constitution of the Republic of the Philippines*, (1987), XIV Section 2(2).

³⁴⁵² Ibid.

³⁴⁵³ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

³⁴⁵⁴ Ibid.

³⁴⁵⁵ Ibid.

³⁴⁵⁶ Ibid.

³⁴⁵⁷ ILO ILOEX Database of International Labor Standards, *Ratifications by Country*, June 30, 2006, accessed June 30, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/newratframeE.htm>.

³⁴⁵⁸ Ibid.

³⁴⁵⁹ ILO, *IPEC Action Against Child Labour: Highlights 2006*, Geneva, October 2006; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ipcc/prod/eng/20061018_Implementationreport_eng.pdf.

³⁴⁶⁰ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

³⁴⁶¹ Terre des Hommes, *Sweet Hazards: Child Labor on Sugarcane Plantations in the Philippines*, Netherlands, June 2005, 8; available from http://www.terredeshommes.nl/filelibrary/Sweet_Hazards.pdf. See also ILO-IPEC, *Safety and Health Fact Sheet: Hazardous Child Labour in Agriculture-Sugarcane*, Geneva, March 2004; available from www.ilo.org/public/english/standards/ipcc/publ/download/factsheets/fs_sugarcane_0304.pdf

³⁴⁶² National Child Labor Committee Official, Meeting with USDOL Official, May 21, 2007.

³⁴⁶³ See also Godelia E.S. Ricalde, Nonita Adan-Perez, and Mark Anthony P. Nucum, *An Annotated Bibliography of Child Labor in the Philippines*, 2002; available from www3.pids.gov.ph/dpnet/documents/annotated%20bibliography.pdf See also ILO-IPEC, *Supporting the*

activities such as scavenging or begging.³⁴⁶⁴ Children, primarily girls, are engaged in domestic service.³⁴⁶⁵ Children are also involved in the commercial sex industry; children are used in the production of pornography and are exploited by sex tourists.³⁴⁶⁶

Children are reportedly trafficked internally from rural areas to major cities, as well as abroad to work in prostitution, drug trafficking, domestic service and other areas of the informal sector.³⁴⁶⁷ Children are also involved in the production and trafficking of drugs within the country.³⁴⁶⁸ There are no reports of child soldiers in the government armed forces, but children under 18 are recruited into terrorist organizations, including the Abu Sayyaf Group and the New People's Army.³⁴⁶⁹

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law prohibits the employment of children under 15, except when working directly with a parent and when the work does not endanger the child's life, safety, health or morals, or does not interfere with schooling. The law requires that any child under 15 employed under these guidelines receive a special permit from the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE),

TimeBound Program on the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor in the Republic of the Philippines, project document, Geneva, September 25, 2002, 5.

³⁴⁶⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Philippines," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78788.htm>. See also Consortium for Street Children, *A Civil Society Forum for East and South East Asia on Promoting and Protecting the Rights of Street Children*, Bangkok, March 12-14, 2003, pp.18-20; available from <http://www.streetchildren.org.uk/reports/southeastasia.pdf>.

³⁴⁶⁵ Inc. Visayan Forum Foundation, *Trafficked into Forced Labor: Selected Case Studies of Domestic Workers in the Philippines*, Manila, 2006, Introductory notes; available from http://www.visayanforum.org/article.php?mode_id=718. See also Ayaka Matsuno and Jonathan Blagbrough, *Child Domestic Labour in South-East and East Asia: Emerging Good Practices to Combat It*, Bangkok, 2006, xv. See also Ricalde, *An Annotated Bibliography of Child Labor in the Philippines*. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Philippines," Section 6c.

³⁴⁶⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Philippines," Section 5. See also ECPAT International CSEC Database, *Philippines*, September 22, 2006; available from http://www.ecpat.net/eng/Ecpat_inter/projects/monitoring/online_database/index.asp. See also Arnie Trinidad, *Child Pornography in the Philippines*, Manila, 2005. See also ECPAT International, *Global Monitoring Report on the Status of Action Against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children: Philippines*, Bangkok, 2006, 11-12; available from http://www.ecpat.net/eng/A4A_2005/PDF/EAP/Global_Monitoring_Report-PHILIPPINES.pdf.

³⁴⁶⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Philippines (Tier 2)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/>. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Philippines," Section 6c. See also Visayan Forum Foundation, *Trafficked into Forced Labor*. See also UNICEF, *Factsheet: Child Trafficking in the Philippines*, [online] n.d. [cited October 3, 2006]; available from <http://www.unicef.org/protection/files/ipulocaltrafficking.pdf#search=%22philippines%20child%20trafficking%22>. See also ECPAT International, *Global Monitoring Report on the Status of Action Against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children: Philippines*, 12.

³⁴⁶⁸ Emma Porio and Christine Crisol, *The Use of Children in the Production, Sales and Trafficking of Drugs*, Manila, 2004, pp. 1, 2. See also Magdalena Lepiten, *Children's Involvement in the Production, Sale and Trafficking of Drugs in Cebu City: A Rapid Assessment*, no. 22, ILO-IPEC, Geneva, February 2002.

³⁴⁶⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Philippines," Section 5. See also Rufa Cagoco-Guiam, *Child Soldiers in Central and Western Mindanao: A Rapid Assessment*, no. 21, ILO-IPEC, Geneva, February 2002, xv.

but it does not define any absolute minimum ages for these children.³⁴⁷⁰ A child is permitted to work as an apprentice at 14.³⁴⁷¹ The law sets limits on children's working hours; it prohibits night work for children under 16 years from 6 p.m. to 6 a.m. and forbids children 16 to 18 years from working after 10 p.m.³⁴⁷² The law also requires formal administration of working children's income, initiates trust funds for working children, and guarantees their access to education and training. Penalties for violations include fines and prison terms up to 20 years.³⁴⁷³

Philippine law defines the worst forms of child labor in accordance with ILO Convention 182 and includes criteria for what is considered hazardous work to be prohibited as called for in the convention. Criteria for categorizing work as hazardous include work that degrades the worth and dignity of a child, work performed underground, and handling of explosives or pyrotechnics, among others.³⁴⁷⁴ The law also specifically prohibits the handling of dangerous machinery or heavy loads; work that entails exposure to extremes of cold, heat, noise, or pressure; work that exposes children to physical, psychological, or sexual abuse; and work that is hazardous.³⁴⁷⁵ The law criminalizes trafficking of children and adults for exploitation, including trafficking for adoption, sex tourism, prostitution, pornography, the recruitment of children into armed conflict, or under the guise of arranged marriage.³⁴⁷⁶ The law establishes the penalty of life imprisonment for trafficking violations involving children and provides for confiscation of any proceeds deriving from trafficking crimes.³⁴⁷⁷ Those who use the services of trafficked persons are also subject to penalties of 15 years of imprisonment.³⁴⁷⁸ Government employees face additional penalties for breaking the law, which also mandates immediate deportation of foreign offenders following the completion of their prison sentence.³⁴⁷⁹ The law prohibits the involvement of minors in the manufacturing, delivery, or purchase of dangerous drugs.³⁴⁸⁰ Slavery and forced labor are prohibited.³⁴⁸¹ The law prohibits child prostitution,

³⁴⁷⁰ Government of the Philippines, *Philippines Labour Code*, Article 139. See also Government of the Philippines, *Republic Act No. 7658*, Section 12. See also Government of the Philippines, *Republic Act No. 9231*, Section 2.

³⁴⁷¹ Government of the Philippines, *Philippines Labour Code*, Article 59.

³⁴⁷² Government of the Philippines, *Policy Instruction No. 23*, (May 30, 1977), Section 1 a, b. See also Government of the Philippines, *Republic Act No. 9231*, Section 3.

³⁴⁷³ Government of the Philippines, *Republic Act No. 9231*, Sections 2-4, 6. See also U.S. Embassy- Manila, *reporting*, February 27, 2004.

³⁴⁷⁴ Government of the Philippines, *Republic Act No. 9231*, Section 3. See also ILO, *C182 Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention*, 1999, [database online] 2002 [cited January 17, 2007]; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/convdisp2.htm>.

³⁴⁷⁵ Department of Labor and Employment, *Hazardous Work and Activities to Persons Below 18 Years of Age*, Department Order No. 4, (1999), Section 3. See also Ayaka Matsuno and Jonathan Blagbrough, *Child Domestic Labour in South-East and East Asia: Emerging Good Practices to Combat It*, Bangkok, 2006, p. 36.

³⁴⁷⁶ Government of the Philippines, *Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act*, Republic Act 9208, (2003); available from <http://www.catw-ap.org/RA9208.htm>.

³⁴⁷⁷ *Ibid.* Sections 6, 10, 14.

³⁴⁷⁸ *Ibid.*, Section 5, 10.

³⁴⁷⁹ *Ibid.*, Section 6, 10. See also U.S. Embassy-Manila, *reporting*, March 1, 2005.

³⁴⁸⁰ Government of the Philippines, *Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act*, Republic Act No. 9165, (2002), Article II, Section 5, 6.

³⁴⁸¹ Government of the Philippines, *Revised Penal Code*, No. 3815, (December 8, 1930), Articles 272-274; available from <http://www.chanrobles.com/revisedpenalcodeofthephilippinesbook1.htm>.

including engaging in, profiting from, or soliciting prostitution from children.³⁴⁸² The law also prohibits the use of children in production of pornographic materials.³⁴⁸³ The minimum age for voluntary recruitment into military service is 18 or 17 for training purposes.³⁴⁸⁴

DOLE is responsible for enforcing child labor laws through the labor standards enforcement offices.³⁴⁸⁵ However, the U.S. Department of State reports that child labor enforcement is weak because of a lack of resources, inadequate judicial infrastructure, and low conviction rates. In addition, child labor laws are not enforced in the informal sector.³⁴⁸⁶ The National Bureau of Investigation, the Bureau of Immigration, and the Philippine National Police Criminal Investigation and Detection Group are tasked with counter-trafficking activities,³⁴⁸⁷ along with an inter-agency group on trafficking headed by the Department of Justice.³⁴⁸⁸ In August in Negros Occidental, a regional Inter-Agency Council Against Trafficking was formed to address child labor and human trafficking in the region.³⁴⁸⁹

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Philippine National Strategic Framework for Plan Development for Children, 2000-2025, also known as "Child 21," and the National Program Against Child Labor (NPACL) Framework serve as the primary government policy instruments for the development, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of programs designed to prevent and eliminate child labor in the Philippines.³⁴⁹⁰ The National Plan of Action for Decent Work 2005-2007 prioritizes the elimination of the worst forms of child labor.³⁴⁹¹ The Medium Term Philippine Development Plan 2004-2010 also includes measures for reducing the incidence of child labor,

³⁴⁸² Government of the Philippines, *Special Protection of Children against Child Abuse, Exploitation and Discrimination Act*, Republic Act No. 7610 (1992); available from <http://www.bwyw.dole.gov.ph/RA7610.htm>. Government of the Philippines, *Revised Penal Code*, Articles 202, 340-341.

³⁴⁸³ Government of the Philippines, *Special Protection of Children Act*, Article V. See also Government of the Philippines, *Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act*, Section 4.

³⁴⁸⁴ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Philippines" in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, London, 2004; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=875.

³⁴⁸⁵ U.S. Embassy- Manila, *reporting*, August 29, 2003.

³⁴⁸⁶ Ibid. See also U.S. Embassy- Manila, *reporting*, March 15, 2006. See also U.S. Embassy--Manila, *reporting*, August 23, 2004.

³⁴⁸⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Philippines," Section 5.

³⁴⁸⁸ U.S. Embassy-Manila official, email communication to USDOL official, August 14, 2006.

³⁴⁸⁹ The Philippines Department of Foreign Affairs, *DFA, RCO Iloilo and NGOs Work to Activate Regional Inter-agency Council Against Trafficking*, [online] August 31, 2006 [cited October 3, 2006]; available from <http://72.14.209.104/search?q=cache:jQlGBHpW3wIJ:www.dfa.gov.ph/news/pr/pr2006/aug/pr734.pdf+philippines+regional+inter-agency+council+against+trafficking&hl=en&gl=us&ct=clnk&cd=7>.

³⁴⁹⁰ Council for the Welfare of Children, *Philippine National Strategic Framework for Plan Development for Children, 2000-2025*, Makati City, Philippines, 2000. See also Department of Labor and Employment, *National Program Against Child Labor Framework 2000-2004*. See also ILO--IPEC, *Supporting the Timebound Program on the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor in the Republic of the Philippines*, technical progress report, September 2005, 30-31. See also World Vision, *Combating Child Labor through Education in the Philippines: The ABK Initiative*, technical progress report, March 2006.

³⁴⁹¹ Department of Labor and Employment, *Employers, Labor Agree to Promote Decent Work*, [online] May 13, 2005 [cited September 21, 2006]; available from <http://www.gov.ph/news/default.asp?i=9290>. See also ILO-IPEC, *Supporting the Timebound Program on the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor in the Republic of the Philippines*, status report, Geneva, June 2005, 3.

especially in hazardous occupations. In the plan, the Philippine Government pledges to strengthen mechanisms to monitor the implementation of child protection laws; develop “social technologies” to respond to child trafficking and pornography; and implement an enhanced program for children in armed conflict.³⁴⁹² In May, the Education Sub-Group of the National Child Labor Committee held its second National Consultative Conference on Child Labor and Education, where an assessment of gains under the Timebound program was presented and where a resolution was issued by all participants to support and contribute toward the Timebound program.³⁴⁹³

The Government of the Philippines, through DOLE, is participating in a USD 10.2 million USDOL-funded Timebound Program implemented by ILO-IPEC and World Vision to eliminate child labor in specified worst forms. The program targets children involved in commercial sexual exploitation, mining and quarrying, pyrotechnics, deep-sea fishing, domestic service, and work on commercial sugar cane farms and aims to withdraw 29,000 and prevent 22,500 children from exploitive work in these sectors.³⁴⁹⁴ USDOL has also funded two additional projects in support of the Timebound Program, including a USD 7 million ILO-IPEC project that aims to withdraw 5,264 and prevent 4,250 children from becoming involved in armed conflict in 7 countries, including the Philippines,³⁴⁹⁵ as well as an additional inter-regional project allocating USD 500,000 in the Philippines to substantially reduce the engagement of children in the worst forms of child labor.³⁴⁹⁶ USDOL also supported a global project aimed at contributing to the elimination of the worst forms of child labor by raising awareness about the hazards of child labor and the benefits of education that ended in August 2006.³⁴⁹⁷

Additional government projects contributing to the goals of the Timebound Program include a 2-year project to combat child labor in tobacco production in Region I (Ilocos Region).³⁴⁹⁸ UNICEF also works actively with the government to promote children’s rights, protect

³⁴⁹² Republic of the Philippines, *Medium Term Philippine Development Plan 2004-2010*, 2004, 113, 168-169.

³⁴⁹³ ILO-IPEC, *Supporting the TimeBound Program on the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor in the Republic of the Philippines*, Geneva, September, 2006, 8-9. See also Department of Education, *2nd National Consultative Conference on Child Labor and Education*, Memorandum No. 163, April 27, 2006.

³⁴⁹⁴ ILO-IPEC, *Supporting the Time-Bound Program, project document*. See also World Vision Inc., *The ABK Initiative: Combating Child Labor through Education in the Philippines*, project document, Washington, 2003. See also Government of the Philippines, *Memorandum Order No. 71*, September 2, 2002.

³⁴⁹⁵ ILO-IPEC, *Prevention and Reintegration of Children Involved in Armed Conflict: An Inter-Regional Program*, project document, Geneva, September 2003. See also U.S. Department of Labor, *Prevention and Reintegration of Children Involved in Armed Conflict: An Inter-Regional Program*, ILAB Technical Cooperation Project Summary, Washington, D.C., 2007.

³⁴⁹⁶ Winrock International, *Reducing Child Labor through Education*, [online] n.d. [cited September 26, 2006]. See also U.S. Embassy- Manila, *United States Government Grants to Promote Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor*, [online] February 14, 2007 [cited April 3, 2007].

³⁴⁹⁷ ILO-IPEC, *APEC Awareness Raising Campaign: Eliminating the Worst Forms of Child Labour and Providing Educational Opportunities*, technical progress report, Geneva, March 2005. See also ILO-IPEC, *IPEC Action Against Child Labour: Highlights 2004*, Geneva, October 2004; available from http://www.ilo.org/public/english/standards/ipecc/publ/download/implementation_2004_en.pdf.

³⁴⁹⁸ ECLT Foundation, *ECLT Foundation Program in the Philippines with the Department of Labor and Employment 2003 - 2005*, [online] 2003 [cited April 3, 2007]; available from <http://www.eclt.org/filestore/DOLEProgramme.pdf>. See also ECLT Foundation, *Philippines Project Update December 2004*, [online] [cited April 3, 2007]; available from <http://www.eclt.org/activities/projects/philippines.html>.

children from trafficking, and support educational improvements.³⁴⁹⁹ The Netherlands is supporting two projects in the Southeast Asia Region, including activities in the Philippines, to combat child domestic labor. The UN Trust Fund for Human Security is implementing a USD 1.9 million program in the Philippines and Thailand to empower returned child trafficking victims economically and socially.³⁵⁰⁰ The Government of the Philippines has also committed to monitor the child labor situation systematically on a nationwide basis. The Philippine National Statistics Office (NSO) has conducted two stand-alone child labor surveys in 1995 and 2001. The NSO also gathers information on child labor by including children 5 years and above in its quarterly Labor Force Survey when measuring the economically active population in the Philippines.³⁵⁰¹

Several governmental agencies in the Philippines have ongoing programs to address the needs of children vulnerable to exploitative labor.³⁵⁰² DOLE continues to implement the Rescue the Child Workers Program to monitor suspected cases of child labor and intervene on behalf of children in affirmed cases.³⁵⁰³ In 2006, DOLE rescued 201 minors in 44 different operations from exploitive labor.³⁵⁰⁴ In addition, DOLE has a number of social welfare programs targeting working children, including the Working Youth Center and the Bureau of Women and Young Workers' Family Welfare Program.³⁵⁰⁵ The government has also begun institutionalizing a computer database on children identified as working that includes their needs and identifies appropriate assistance.³⁵⁰⁶ The Cebu Chamber of Commerce, in collaboration with the Employers Confederation of the Philippines and ILO, initiated an awards program for Child Labor Free and Child-Friendly Firms.³⁵⁰⁷ The Department of Social Welfare and Development is the lead government agency that provides support for victims of trafficking;³⁵⁰⁸ children in armed conflict; and children who have been exploited, abused, or rescued from living on the

³⁴⁹⁹ UNICEF, *Revised Country Programme Document: Philippines*, [online] [cited June 28, 2005]; available from http://www.unicef.org/about/execboard/files/2004-PL9Rev1_Philippines.pdf. See also UNICEF Philippines, *UNICEF Inks Agreement with Philippine Government to Reduce Disparities in the Well-Being of Children*, [online] May 4, 2005 [cited September 21, 2006]; available from <http://www.unicef.org/philippines/archives/news/050503.html>.

³⁵⁰⁰ ILO-IPEC official, E-mail communication USDOL Official, March 1, 2007.

³⁵⁰¹ ILO--IPEC, *Supporting the Timebound Program on the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor in the Republic of the Philippines*, technical progress report, March 2004, 7. See also National Statistics Office, *NSO and ILO-IPEC Set to Present Final Results of the Latest Survey on Children*, [Press Release] October 10, 2002 [cited January 17, 2007]; available from <http://www.census.gov.ph/data/pressrelease/2002/pr02177tx.html>.

³⁵⁰² U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Philippines," Section 6d.

³⁵⁰³ Department of Labor and Employment, *Sagip Batang Manggagawa (SBM)*, [online] n.d. [cited October 3, 2006]; available from <http://www.bwyw.dole.gov.ph/SBM.htm>. See also U.S. Embassy- Manila, *reporting March 15, 2006*.

³⁵⁰⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Philippines," Section 6d.

³⁵⁰⁵ U.S. Embassy- Manila, *reporting August 29, 2003*.

³⁵⁰⁶ *Ibid.*

³⁵⁰⁷ Cebu Chamber of Commerce and Industry Inc., *Search for CCCI's Child Friendly Firm is On*, [Press Release] October 8, 2006 [cited October 18, 2006]; available from http://www.cebusbusinesswebportal.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=63&Itemid=129.

³⁵⁰⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Philippines," Section 5.

streets.³⁵⁰⁹ In February 2007, the Manila International Airport Authority established an inter-agency task force to combat trafficking at Manila's Ninoy Aquino International Airport.³⁵¹⁰

The Philippines Education for All National Plan of Action includes child laborers as beneficiaries of education services.³⁵¹¹ The Department of Education (DepEd) is implementing functional education and literacy programs that provide working children with basic education and skills training. DepEd's Bureau of Alternative Learning System (ALS)³⁵¹² promotes, improves and monitors alternative learning interventions for out-of-school youth and groups with special educational needs,³⁵¹³ and has developed learning modules for parents of working children in areas with a high incidence of child labor.³⁵¹⁴ In support of the Timebound Program, DepEd issued *Bulletin No.4 Series 2003* instructing education officials at the national, regional, and local levels to intervene to reduce or eliminate child labor.³⁵¹⁵

³⁵⁰⁹ U.S. Embassy- Manila, *reporting August 29, 2003*. See also Department of Social Welfare and Development, *Retained Programs/Services for Children* [online] [cited September 22, 2006]; available from <http://www.dswd.gov.ph/ProgProj.php?id=32>.

³⁵¹⁰ U.S. Embassy- Manila, *reporting*, March 12, 2007.

³⁵¹¹ Government of the Philippines, *National Action Plan to Achieve Education for All by Year 2015*, 2005, p.51; available from

http://www.unescobkk.org/fileadmin/user_upload/efa/EFA_Plans/Phil_EFA2015_Final_Plan.pdf. See also ILO-IPEC, *Time-Bound Program to Combat Child Labor, technical progress report September 2006*, p. 2.

³⁵¹² Government of the Philippines, *Renaming the Bureau of Nonformal Education to Bureau of Alternative Learning System*, Executive Order No. 356, (September 13, 2004).

³⁵¹³ Government of the Philippines, *National Action Plan to Achieve Education for All by Year 2015*, p. 26. See also U.S. Embassy- Manila, *reporting August 29, 2003*.

³⁵¹⁴ U.S. Embassy-Manila, *reporting*, March 1, 2005.

³⁵¹⁵ Department of Education, *DepED Bulletin No. 4 S. 2003, Philippines Timebound Program (PTBP) for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor (WFCL)*, (2003).

Russia

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In Russian urban areas, children can be found working primarily in the informal sector in retail services, selling goods on the street, washing cars, repairing automobiles, making deliveries, collecting trash, and begging.³⁵²⁴ In rural areas, it is more common to see children working in agriculture.³⁵²⁵ Child work in Russia

encompasses not only Russian children, but often children from neighboring countries.³⁵²⁶

Among street children, boys are usually involved in hard physical labor, while girls are more likely to work in trade and prostitution.³⁵²⁷ However, child prostitution involving boys does

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children ages 5-14 estimated as working:	Unavailable
Minimum age for admission to work:	16 ³⁵¹⁶
Age to which education is compulsory:	15 or 16 ³⁵¹⁷
Free public education:	Yes ³⁵¹⁸
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2005:	129% ³⁵¹⁹
Net primary enrollment rate in 2005:	92% ³⁵²⁰
Percent of children 5-14 attending school:	Unavailable
Percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	Unavailable
Ratified Convention 138:	5/3/1979 ³⁵²¹
Ratified Convention 182:	3/25/2003 ³⁵²²
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Yes ³⁵²³

³⁵¹⁶ Government of the Russia, *Labor Code of the Russian Federation*, (February 1, 2002), Article 63; available from <http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/docs/WEBTEXT/60535/65252/E01RUS01.htm>.

³⁵¹⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Russia," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78835>. See also ILO Committee of Experts, *Direct Request, Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138) Russian Federation (ratification: 1979)*, [online] 2006 [cited October 24, 2006]; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/cgi-lex/pdconv.pl?host=status01&textbase=iloeng&document=18528&chapter=9&query=%28C029%2C+C105%2C+C138%2C+C182%29+%40ref+%2B+%28Russian+Federation%29+%40ref+%2B+%23YEAR%3E2000&highlight=&querytype=bool&context=0>.

³⁵¹⁸ U.S. Embassy- Moscow, *reporting* October 22, 2002. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Russia," Section 5.

³⁵¹⁹ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

³⁵²⁰ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Rate. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

³⁵²¹ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, accessed October 24, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/cgi-lex/ratifice.pl?Russian+Federation>.

³⁵²² Ibid.

³⁵²³ ILO, *IPEC Action Against Child Labour- Highlights 2006*, Geneva, October 2006, 29; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ippec/prod/eng/20061018_Implementationreport_eng.pdf.

³⁵²⁴ ILO-IPEC, *In-depth Analysis of the Situation of Working Street Children in Moscow 2001*, Moscow, 2002, 36; available from http://www.ilo.org/public/english/standards/ippec/simpoc/russia/ra/street_m.pdf.

³⁵²⁵ U.S. Embassy- Moscow, Email communication to USDOL official, August 3, 2007.

³⁵²⁶ Ibid.

³⁵²⁷ ILO-IPEC, *In-depth Analysis of the Situation of Working Street children in St. Petersburg 2000*, St. Petersburg, 2001, 32; available from http://www.ilo.org/public/english/standards/ippec/simpoc/russia/ra/street_s.pdf.

exist, particularly among homeless and orphaned children.³⁵²⁸ Boys start working at an earlier age than girls do.³⁵²⁹ Homeless and orphaned children on the streets are engaged in prostitution as a means to survive.³⁵³⁰ Some children involved in prostitution are also engaged in day work in some other sector.³⁵³¹ Child sex tourism remains a concern.³⁵³² Some children are brought to Russia for the purpose of exploitation.³⁵³³ The northwestern border areas of Russia are popular destinations for tourists from wealthier Western European nations, particularly Finland.³⁵³⁴ While St. Petersburg and Moscow are both destination sites for child sex tourism,³⁵³⁵ St. Petersburg appears to be much more significant of a destination than Moscow.³⁵³⁶ Russian children, primarily girls, are trafficked for commercial sexual exploitation.³⁵³⁷ Domestic trafficking of children from rural areas to urban centers and from one region to another also occurs.³⁵³⁸ Russia is a major producer and distributor of internet pornography.³⁵³⁹ There has been a ten fold increase in prosecutions for child pornography in the past five years, but it remains a significant problem.³⁵⁴⁰

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum age of employment at 16 years, with some exceptions.³⁵⁴¹ Children who have either completed their basic general education or have left the general educational system may work at 15. Children at least 14 years may, with parental consent, perform light work that is not harmful to their health or education. Children younger than 14 may, with parental consent, participate in the creation and/or performance of art works that are not harmful to their health and moral development.³⁵⁴² The normal working time for employees younger than 16 is 24 hours per week, and 36 hours per week for employees between 16 and 18.³⁵⁴³ Workers younger than 16 may work longer than 5 hours per shift, and for workers

³⁵²⁸ U.S. Embassy- Moscow, Email communication, August 3, 2007.

³⁵²⁹ ILO-IPEC, *Analysis of the situation of working children in St. Petersburg*.

³⁵³⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Russia," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2005*, Washington, DC, March 8, 2006, Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2005/61671.htm>. See also U.S. Embassy- Moscow, Email communication, August 3, 2007.

³⁵³¹ ILO-IPEC, *Analysis of the Situation of Working Street Children in Moscow*, 37.

³⁵³² U.S. Department of State, "Russia," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/65990.htm>. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2005: Russia," Section 5.

³⁵³³ U.S. Embassy- Moscow, Email communication, August 3, 2007.

³⁵³⁴ Donna M. Hughes, *Trafficking for Sexual Exploitation: The Case of the Russian Federation*, No. 7, IOM, Geneva, June 2002, 17; available from http://www.iom.int/jahia/webdav/site/myjahiasite/shared/shared/mainsite/published_docs/serial_publications/mrs7.pdf. See also ECPAT International CSEC Database, *Russia accessed October 27, 2006*; available from <http://www.ecpat.net>.

³⁵³⁵ Hughes, *Trafficking for Sexual Exploitation*, 24.

³⁵³⁶ U.S. Embassy- Moscow, Email communication, August 3, 2007.

³⁵³⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Russia," Section 5.

³⁵³⁸ Hughes, *Trafficking for Sexual Exploitation*, 17. See also U.S. Embassy- Moscow, *reporting*, March 1, 2005.

³⁵³⁹ Hughes, *Trafficking for Sexual Exploitation*, 23. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Russia," section 5.

³⁵⁴⁰ U.S. Embassy- Moscow, Email communication, August 3, 2007.

³⁵⁴¹ Government of the Russia, *Labor Code of the Russian Federation*, Article 63.

³⁵⁴² *Ibid.*

³⁵⁴³ *Ibid.*, Article 92.

between 16 and 18, a shift may not exceed 7 hours.³⁵⁴⁴ Children under 18 are prohibited from engaging in night work, unhealthy or dangerous work, underground work, or work that may be injurious to their moral development.³⁵⁴⁵ Employers must medically screen any prospective employees younger than 18; once hired, these employees must also pass annual medical surveys provided at the expense of the employer.³⁵⁴⁶

Forced child labor is punishable by imprisonment from 3 to 10 years, rape of a minor is punishable by up to 4 to 10 years' imprisonment, soliciting a minor for prostitution is punishable by up to 4 years' imprisonment, and recruiting a minor into prostitution by up to 3 to 8 years' imprisonment.³⁵⁴⁷ Operating a prostitution business with known minors under 16 is punishable by up to 6 years of imprisonment. If the child is under 14, the sentence may be from 3 to 10 years of imprisonment.³⁵⁴⁸ Sexual relations with a person under 16 is forbidden and punishable by up to 4 years of imprisonment.³⁵⁴⁹ Also prohibited is the making and circulating of pornography depicting known minors; it is punishable by imprisonment for up to 8 years, depending on the age of the child.³⁵⁵⁰ Trafficking of a known minor is punishable by a sentence of 3 to 10 years of imprisonment if committed by an individual, and 8 to 15 years if committed by an organized group.³⁵⁵¹ The minimum age for military conscription is 18 years.³⁵⁵²

The Federal Labor Inspectorate is responsible for state supervision and control over the observance of the labor code.³⁵⁵³ According to the U.S. Department of State, however, the government failed to enforce child labor laws effectively; there were approximately 8,300 cases of child labor violations reported in 2004, the most recent date for which such information is available.³⁵⁵⁴ There have been reports of trafficking-related complicity among Russian officials.³⁵⁵⁵

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Ministry of the Interior and anti-trafficking NGOs completed a trafficking manual that has been used by several police units to assist officers with investigations.³⁵⁵⁶

³⁵⁴⁴ Ibid., Article 94.

³⁵⁴⁵ Ibid., Articles 96 and 265.

³⁵⁴⁶ Ibid., Article 266.

³⁵⁴⁷ Government of Russia, *The Criminal Code of the Russian Federation*, (January 1, 1997), Articles 127, 131, 151, 240; available from <http://www.legislationline.org/upload/legislations/d1/a1/0cc1acff8241216090943e97d5b4.htm>. See also Government of Russia, *Constitution of the Russian Federation*, (December 25, 1993), Article 37; available from <http://www.legislationline.org/upload/legislations/68/7c/40e7c5194d7db79b900b350d2a20.htm>.

³⁵⁴⁸ Government of Russia, *Criminal Code*, Article 241.

³⁵⁴⁹ Ibid., Article 134.

³⁵⁵⁰ Ibid., Article 242.1.

³⁵⁵¹ Ibid., Article 127.1.

³⁵⁵² Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Russian Federation," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, London, 2004; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=924.

³⁵⁵³ Government of the Russia, *Labor Code of the Russian Federation*, Article 353.

³⁵⁵⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Russia," Section 6d.

³⁵⁵⁵ Ibid., section 5. See also U.S. Embassy- Moscow, *reporting* June 9, 2004.

³⁵⁵⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Person Report- 2006: Russia."

Rwanda

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2000, approximately 29.9 percent of boys and 24.8 percent of 5 to 14 were working in Rwanda.³⁵⁶⁸ Children work in domestic service for third-party households, in brick making, sand extraction, stone quarrying, and on tea, rice, and sugar cane plantations.³⁵⁶⁹ Children also work in coffee harvesting, charcoal

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 2000:	27.3% ³⁵⁵⁷
Minimum age of work:	16 ³⁵⁵⁸
Age to which education is compulsory:	13 ³⁵⁵⁹
Free public education:	Yes ^{3560*}
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:	119% ³⁵⁶¹
Net primary enrollment rate in 2004:	73% ³⁵⁶²
Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 2000:	55.3% ³⁵⁶³
As of 2003, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	46% ³⁵⁶⁴
Ratified Convention 138:	4/15/1981 ³⁵⁶⁵
Ratified Convention 182:	5/23/2000 ³⁵⁶⁶
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Yes, associated ³⁵⁶⁷
*Must pay for school supplies and related items.	

³⁵⁵⁷ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, March 1, 2007.

³⁵⁵⁸ Government of Rwanda, *Law No. 51/2001 of 30/12/2001 Establishing the Labour Code*, (December 30, 2001), Article 11; available from <http://www.rwandainvest.gov.rw/lawlab.htm>. See also U.S. Department of State, "Rwanda," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 6d; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/81364.htm>.

³⁵⁵⁹ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *National Education Systems*, [online] [cited September 25, 2006]; available from http://www.uis.unesco.org/statsen/statistics/yearbook/tables/Table3_1.html. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Rwanda," Section 5. See also Government of Rwanda, *Constitution of Rwanda*, (May 30, 1991), Article 27 Mandatory Education; available from http://www.oefre.unibe.ch/law/icl/rw00000_.html.

³⁵⁶⁰ Government of Rwanda, *Constitution of Rwanda*, Article 27 Mandatory Education. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Rwanda," Section 5.

³⁵⁶¹ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

³⁵⁶² UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Rate. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

³⁵⁶³ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

³⁵⁶⁴ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Survival Rate to Grade 5. Total*, accessed December 18, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

³⁵⁶⁵ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, accessed on September 24, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/newratframeE.htm>.

³⁵⁶⁶ Ibid.

³⁵⁶⁷ ILO, *IPEC Action Against Child Labour: Highlights 2006*, Geneva, October 2006, 30; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ippec/prod/eng/20070228_Implementationreport_en_Web.pdf.

³⁵⁶⁸ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

³⁵⁶⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Rwanda," Section 6d.

carrying and burning,³⁵⁷⁰ and manufacturing,³⁵⁷¹ and are found working at waste disposal sites.³⁵⁷² In the capital city of Kigali and in provincial capitals, children live on the streets and work as porters, car guards, garbage collectors, and vendors, selling small items such as cigarettes and candy. Street children, particularly girls, are at high risk of sexual exploitation.³⁵⁷³

Child prostitution is a problem in Rwanda,³⁵⁷⁴ particularly in urban areas. Children are engaged in commercial sexual exploitation, including forced prostitution, however the number of children engaged in prostitution remains low. Of the small numbers of girls engaging in prostitution, the majority are between 14 and 18 years.³⁵⁷⁵ Orphans are among the groups at highest risk for being exploited in prostitution.³⁵⁷⁶

In 2006, an armed group from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) recruited and trafficked Congolese refugee children living in Rwanda for forced labor and soldiering in the DRC.³⁵⁷⁷

The problem of child labor has been attributed partly to the high incidence of children who have been orphaned and are now heading households as a result of Rwanda's civil war, 1994 genocide,³⁵⁷⁸ and high incidence of HIV/AIDS.³⁵⁷⁹ Estimates of the number of child-headed households vary, with the 2002 census estimating that there are 15,052 and UNICEF estimating that there are 106,000.³⁵⁸⁰ Children who head households in Rwanda engage in informal work activities, primarily in subsistence agriculture. These households are most often headed by girls,³⁵⁸¹ and these girls, along with those who work in domestic service, are particularly vulnerable to sexual exploitation.³⁵⁸²

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum age of employment at 16 years,³⁵⁸³ but this does not apply to children working in subsistence agriculture.³⁵⁸⁴ The Ministry of Labor can make exceptions to

³⁵⁷⁰ World Vision, *Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, and Ethiopia Together (KURET)*, project document, July 18, 2005, 7.

³⁵⁷¹ U.S. Embassy- Kigali, *reporting*, February 27, 2006.

³⁵⁷² Republic of Rwanda, *National Policy for Orphans and Other Vulnerable Children*, Kigali, 2003, 33.

³⁵⁷³ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Rwanda," Section 5. See also Human Rights Watch, *Lasting Wounds: Consequences of Genocide and War on Rwanda's Children*, New York, March 2003, 62-63; available from <http://hrw.org/reports/2003/rwanda0403>.

³⁵⁷⁴ U.S. Embassy- Kigali, *reporting*, March 1, 2007, Overview para 27 B. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Rwanda," Sections 5 and 6d.

³⁵⁷⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Rwanda," Sections 5 and 6d.

³⁵⁷⁶ U.S. Embassy- Kigali, *reporting*, March 1, 2007, Prevention para 28 D,E.

³⁵⁷⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Rwanda," Sections 2d, 5, 6c, and 6d.

³⁵⁷⁸ U.S. Embassy- Kigali, *reporting*, February 27, 2006.

³⁵⁷⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Rwanda," Section 5.

³⁵⁸⁰ U.S. Embassy- Kigali official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, August 11, 2006.

³⁵⁸¹ U.S. Embassy- Kigali, *reporting*, November 17, 2005. See also Human Rights Watch, *Lasting Wounds: Consequences of Genocide and War on Rwanda's Children*, 47-48.

³⁵⁸² U.S. Embassy- Kigali, *reporting*, March 1, 2007, Overview para 27 A. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Rwanda," Section 5.

³⁵⁸³ Government of Rwanda, *Labour Code, Law No. 51/2001 of 30/12/2001 Establishing the Labor Code*, (December 30, 2001), Article 11; available from <http://www.rwandainvest.gov.rw/lawlab.htm>.

the minimum age law for children 14 to 16 years, for apprenticeships or other circumstances, and allow children to work with parental permission. Children under the age of 16 years are prohibited from working between the hours of 7 p.m. and 5 a.m.; from performing any work deemed hazardous or difficult, as determined by the Ministry of Labor; and must have at least 12 hours of rest between work shifts.³⁵⁸⁵ The ILO CEACR has detected a gap in the labor code with respect to the age of admission to hazardous work. Children 16 to 18 years are allowed to engage in hazardous work, which is prohibited until 18 years under ILO Conventions 182 and 138.³⁵⁸⁶ In 2006, a by-law was adopted in Gicumbi District, which stipulated penalties for employers who engaged children in the worst forms of child labor.³⁵⁸⁷

Trafficking is not specifically prohibited by law. However, laws against slavery, forced prostitution, kidnapping, and child labor can be used to prosecute traffickers.³⁵⁸⁸ The law prohibits forced labor,³⁵⁸⁹ but not specifically by children.³⁵⁹⁰ All sexual relations with children are considered rape under Rwandan law. The law also prohibits prostitution and compelling another person to engage in prostitution. These crimes are punishable by imprisonment for up to 5 years and a fine. Penalties are doubled if the crime is committed against a minor under the age of 18 years.³⁵⁹¹ If the child is between 14 and 18 years and the crime is committed by a person in a position of authority over the child, it is punishable by a fine and life imprisonment. Using or exploiting children in pornographic publications is prohibited and is punishable by a fine and between 5 and 12 years imprisonment.³⁵⁹² The law also prohibits the use of children in drug trafficking.³⁵⁹³ The law sets the minimum age for military service at 18 years.³⁵⁹⁴ However, this law does not apply to the Local Defense Forces,³⁵⁹⁵ a paramilitary

³⁵⁸⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Rwanda," Section 6d.

³⁵⁸⁵ Government of Rwanda, *Labour Code*, Articles 11 and 60-66. U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Rwanda," Section 6d.

³⁵⁸⁶ ILO Committee of Experts, *Direct Request, Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182) Madagascar (ratification: 2001)*, [online] 2006 [cited October 8, 2006]; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/newcountryframeE.htm>. See also ILO Committee of Experts, *Direct Request, Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention No. 182, Madagascar*].

³⁵⁸⁷ World Vision, *KURET (Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, and Ethiopia Together) Initiative*, technical progress report, September 30, 2006, 7-8.

³⁵⁸⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Rwanda (Tier 2)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/>. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Rwanda," Section 5.

³⁵⁸⁹ Government of Rwanda, *Labour Code*, Article 4.

³⁵⁹⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Rwanda," Section 6d.

³⁵⁹¹ Interpol- Legislation of Interpol Member States on Sexual Offences against Children, *National Laws: Rwanda*, September 24, 2006, accessed April 3, 2007; available from <http://www.interpol.int/public/children/sexualabuse/nationallaws>. See also The Protection Project, *Criminal Code*, Articles 363-365, 374; available from www.protectionproject.org [hard copy on file].

³⁵⁹² Interpol- Legislation of Interpol Member States on Sexual Offences against Children, *National Laws- Rwanda*.

³⁵⁹³ U.S. Embassy- Kigali, *reporting, March 1, 2007*, Investigation and Prosecution of Trafficking para. 29 A.

³⁵⁹⁴ ILO-IPEC, *Prevention and Reintegration of Children Involved in Armed Conflict: An Inter-Regional Programme*, project document, Geneva, September 17, 2003, 23. See also Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Rwanda," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, London, 2004; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=791. See also U.S. Embassy- Kigali, *reporting, March 1, 2007*, Investigation and Prosecution of Trafficking para. 29 A.

³⁵⁹⁵ ILO Committee of Experts, *Direct Request, Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No.182) Rwanda (ratification: 2000)*, [online] [cited September 24, 2006]; available from

government militia;³⁵⁹⁶ there are no mechanisms in place to prevent children from being recruited or to remove children from armed conflict.³⁵⁹⁷ Additionally, the government has not established any penalties for violations of the law against recruiting children under 18 years for military service.³⁵⁹⁸

The Ministry of Public Service, Skills Development, and Labor (MIFOTRA) is the ministry responsible for the enforcement of child labor laws. MIFOTRA employs 30 child labor inspectors. Inspectors generally address child labor violations by issuing warnings and educating employers on child labor laws.³⁵⁹⁹ In some cases, fines were levied against employers who employed children illegally and parents who made their children work to the detriment of their schooling. The government continued to support 12 regional child labor offices; however, these offices were not given adequate resources to identify or prevent child labor. According to the U.S. Department of State, the government lacked the staff and capacity to effectively enforce child labor laws.³⁶⁰⁰

The Rwanda National Police, which is part of the Ministry of Internal Security, is responsible for the government's efforts to fight trafficking³⁶⁰¹ and for enforcing laws related to child prostitution. The MIFOTRA and the Ministries of Education, Gender, and Local Government are responsible for providing assistance to children exploited in prostitution.³⁶⁰²

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Government of Rwanda has a National Policy for Orphans and Other Vulnerable Children (OVC), which targets working children, children living in child-headed households, children affected by armed conflict, children exploited in prostitution and sexual abuse, children affected by HIV/AIDS, and street children. The National Policy on OVC includes specific strategies to address child labor, which include improving children's working conditions, better enforcement of labor laws, supporting income-generating activities for families, strengthening a "catch up" education system, and conducting child labor studies and sensitization campaigns.³⁶⁰³ The Ministry of Gender and Family Protection, the lead implementing agency for the National Policy on OVC,³⁶⁰⁴ assists local NGOs to provide

<http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/newcountryframeE.htm>. See also Human Rights Watch, *Lasting Wounds: Consequences of Genocide and War on Rwanda's Children*, 16.

³⁵⁹⁶ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Child Soldiers Global Report 2004."

³⁵⁹⁷ ILO Committee of Experts, *Direct Request, Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No.182) Rwanda (ratification: 2000)*, [online]2006 [cited September 24, 2006]; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/newcountryframeE.htm>.

³⁵⁹⁸ *Ibid.*

³⁵⁹⁹ U.S. Embassy- Kigali, *reporting*, Kigali, December 14, 2006. See also U.S. Embassy- Kigali, *reporting*, August 23, 2004.

³⁶⁰⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Rwanda," Section 6d.

³⁶⁰¹ *Ibid.*, Section 5.

³⁶⁰² U.S. Embassy- Kigali, *reporting*, March 1, 2007, Prevention para. 28 B.

³⁶⁰³ Republic of Rwanda, *National Policy for Orphans and Other Vulnerable Children*. See also ILO Committee of Experts, *Direct Request, Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, Rwanda*.

³⁶⁰⁴ U.S. Embassy- Kigali, *reporting*, March 1, 2007, Protection and Assistance to Victims para 30 A-C.

children exploited in prostitution with housing, health services, and vocational education.³⁶⁰⁵ The government also provided rehabilitation and training programs to children who had been working in plantations, mines, and quarries. These programs helped children to return to school.³⁶⁰⁶

The Government of Rwanda participated in a global USD 7 million USDOL-funded project implemented by ILO-IPEC to prevent the involvement of children in armed conflict and support the rehabilitation of former child soldiers.³⁶⁰⁷ The project targets a total of 5,264 children for withdrawal and 4,250 children for prevention from involvement with armed groups in seven countries, including Rwanda.³⁶⁰⁸ Throughout 2006, children who had been soldiers in the DRC received assistance and reintegration services from the Muhazi child demobilization center in the Eastern province.³⁶⁰⁹ The Rwanda Demobilization and Reintegration Commission also operates a vocational training center for former child soldiers repatriated from the DRC.³⁶¹⁰ The National Poverty Reduction Program, the Local Development Program through Labor-Intensive Public Works, and other local initiatives also provide opportunities for former child soldiers.³⁶¹¹ The government collaborated with the National Demobilization and Reintegration Committee to raise awareness among refugees living in Rwandan camps on the dangers of child soldiering.³⁶¹²

The Government of Rwanda is collaborating on the 4-year, USD 14.5 million Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, and Ethiopia Together (KURET) project, funded by USDOL and implemented by World Vision, in partnership with the International Rescue Committee and the Academy for Educational Development. The KURET Project aims to withdraw or prevent a total of 30,600 children from exploitive labor in HIV/AIDS-affected areas of these four countries through the provision of educational services.³⁶¹³

The Government of Rwanda continues to provide police officers with training on sex crimes and crimes against children as part of its training curriculum. Specialized training on identifying human trafficking, including trafficking of children, was offered to many police officers in 2006.³⁶¹⁴ The government closely monitors security checkpoints and vehicle cargo for signs of trafficking.³⁶¹⁵

The Ministry of Education provides educational services to vulnerable children who were previously out of school, including domestic workers, street children, and children who head

³⁶⁰⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Rwanda." See also U.S. Embassy- Kigali, *reporting, March 1, 2007*, Protection and Assistance to Victims paras 30 F, I.

³⁶⁰⁶ ILO Committee of Experts, *Direct Request, Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, Rwanda*.

³⁶⁰⁷ ILO-IPEC, *Prevention and Reintegration of Children Involved in Armed Conflict, project document*.

³⁶⁰⁸ *Ibid.* See also ILO-IPEC, *Prevention and Reintegration of Children Involved in Armed Conflict: An Inter-Regional Programme*, Annex to the project document, Geneva, September 17, 2006.

³⁶⁰⁹ ILO-IPEC, *Prevention and Reintegration of Children Involved in Armed Conflict, Annex to the project document*, 4. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Rwanda," Sections 2c and 5.

³⁶¹⁰ ILO-IPEC, *Prevention and Reintegration of Children Involved in Armed Conflict, Annex to the project document*, 4.

³⁶¹¹ *Ibid.*

³⁶¹² U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Rwanda," Section 2c.

³⁶¹³ World Vision, *KURET, project document*.

³⁶¹⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Rwanda," Section 5.

³⁶¹⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Rwanda."

their households.³⁶¹⁶ The government continues to work with NGOs to assist child-headed households and sensitize local officials to their needs.³⁶¹⁷ Local authorities continue to place street children in foster homes or government-run facilities. The government supports 12 centers throughout the country that provide street children with shelter and meets basic needs.³⁶¹⁸ Local government officials conducted an awareness raising campaign to sensitize employers on child labor.³⁶¹⁹

³⁶¹⁶ Ibid.

³⁶¹⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Rwanda," Section 5.

³⁶¹⁸ Ibid.

³⁶¹⁹ Ibid., Section 6d.

Saint Kitts and Nevis

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

No changes have been recorded since the last reporting period regarding the incidence and nature of child labor in Saint Kitts and Nevis.*

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:	101% ³⁶²⁰
Net primary enrollment rate in 2004:	94% ³⁶²¹

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

No changes have been recorded since the last reporting period regarding child labor laws and enforcement in Saint Kitts and Nevis.*

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The ILO CEACR urged the Government of Saint Kitts and Nevis to take appropriate measures to ensure the prevention and elimination of the worst forms of child labor by ratifying ILO Convention No. 182.³⁶²²

* For more information, please refer to the U.S. Department of Labor's 2005 *Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labor*.

³⁶²⁰ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

³⁶²¹ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Rate. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

³⁶²² ILO Committee of Experts, *Direct Request, Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182) Saint Kitts and Nevis (ratification: 2000)*, [online] 2006 [cited March 19, 2007]; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/newcountryframeE.htm>.

Saint Lucia

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Children are trafficked to, from, and within Saint Lucia, often for prostitution.³⁶²⁵

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:	106% ³⁶²³
Net primary enrollment rate in 2004:	98% ³⁶²⁴

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

No changes have been recorded since the last reporting period regarding child labor laws and enforcement in Saint Lucia.*

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

In October 2006, the IOM and the Gender Affairs Division of the Government of St. Lucia took part in a training to identify and aid victims of trafficking.³⁶²⁶

* For more information, please refer to the U.S. Department of Labor's 2005 Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labor.

³⁶²³ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

³⁶²⁴ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Rate. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

³⁶²⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Saint Lucia," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78904.htm>.

³⁶²⁶ Ibid.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

There is concern that child prostitution is becoming a larger problem in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.³⁶³¹

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:	106% ³⁶²⁷
Net primary enrollment rate in 2004:	94% ³⁶²⁸
Free public education:	Yes ³⁶²⁹
Ratified Convention 138:	7/25/2006 ³⁶³⁰

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

New information provided by the Government of St. Vincent and the Grenadines clarified that complaints regarding child labor can be addressed through the country's high court system.³⁶³²

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

Research has not identified any policies or programs by the Government of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines to address exploitive child labor.

³⁶²⁷ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

³⁶²⁸ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Rate. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

³⁶²⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Saint Vincent and the Grenadines," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices-2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78905.htm>.

³⁶³⁰ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, accessed February 2, 2007; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/docs/declAM.htm>.

³⁶³¹ ILO Committee of Experts, *Direct Request, Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182) Saint Vincent and the Grenadines (ratification: 2001)*, [online] 2006 [cited February 9, 2007]; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/newcountryframeE.htm>. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Saint Vincent and the Grenadines," Section 5.

³⁶³² Government of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, *Information Sought by USDOL: Worst Forms of Child Labor*, submitted in response to U.S. Department of Labor Federal Register Notice (December 5, 2006) "Request for Information on Efforts by Certain Countries to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor", Washington, DC, January 31, 2007.

Samoa

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Children are frequently found working as street vendors in Apia, Samoa's capital.³⁶⁴² Children in rural areas work on village farms, and those who do not work willingly may be compelled to do so by village chiefs (*matai*).³⁶⁴³ Children also work as domestics in private homes, and may perform tasks that are potentially injurious or not suited to their physical capacities.³⁶⁴⁴

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working:	Unavailable
Minimum age for admission to work:	15 ³⁶³³
Age to which education is compulsory:	14 ³⁶³⁴
Free public education:	No ³⁶³⁵
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:	100% ³⁶³⁶
Net primary enrollment rate in 2004:	90% ³⁶³⁷
Percent of children 5-14 attending school:	Unavailable
As of 2000 percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade five:	94% ³⁶³⁸
Ratified Convention 138:	No ³⁶³⁹
Ratified Convention 182:	No ³⁶⁴⁰
ILO-IPEC participating country:	No ³⁶⁴¹

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum age of employment at 15, except for safe and light work suited to the capacity of the child, as determined by the Commissioner of Labor. Children under 15

³⁶³³ Government of Samoa, *Labour and Employment Act*, (1972), Article 32; available from http://www.paclii.org/ws/legis/consol_act/laea1972228/.

³⁶³⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Samoa," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78789.htm>.

³⁶³⁵ *Ibid.*

³⁶³⁶ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

³⁶³⁷ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Rate. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

³⁶³⁸ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Survival Rate to Grade 5. Total*, accessed December 18, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

³⁶³⁹ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, accessed October 12, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/cvlistE.htm>.

³⁶⁴⁰ *Ibid.*

³⁶⁴¹ ILO, *IPEC Action Against Child Labour Highlights 2006*, Geneva, October 2006, 30; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ippec/prod/eng/20061013_implementationreport_eng.pdf.

³⁶⁴² U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Samoa," Section 6d.

³⁶⁴³ *Ibid.*, Sections 6c and 6d.

³⁶⁴⁴ UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Consideration of Reports Submitted by States Parties Under Article 44 of the Convention: Initial Report of States Parties Due in 1996*, November 1, 2005, 90; available from [http://www.unhchr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/898586b1dc7b4043c1256a450044f331/7a53d58f695d3bf1c125715c0037ae04/\\$FILE/G0640507.pdf](http://www.unhchr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/898586b1dc7b4043c1256a450044f331/7a53d58f695d3bf1c125715c0037ae04/$FILE/G0640507.pdf).

may not work on dangerous machinery, in any occupation or place under working conditions likely to be harmful to their physical or moral health, or on any vessel not under the personal charge of his or her parent or guardian.³⁶⁴⁵ Since Samoan labor laws cover only employees with a fixed place of employment, the government has not determined whether street vending and other outdoor work by children is illegal.³⁶⁴⁶ Violations of child labor laws are punishable by fines.³⁶⁴⁷ The minimum age for work is inconsistent with the age to which schooling is compulsory (14 years). This inconsistency may result in children dropping out of school to work.

Samoan law prohibits forced or compulsory labor, but this provision does not cover work or service required by Samoan custom.³⁶⁴⁸ The crime of conspiring to induce a female of any age into sexual relations with any male is punishable by up to 5 years of imprisonment.³⁶⁴⁹ Soliciting or procuring a female of any age for prostitution as well as benefiting from the earnings thereof are crimes punishable by 3 years of imprisonment.³⁶⁵⁰ Abduction of any child under 16, or taking away or detaining a woman or girl with intent to cause her to have sexual relations with anyone, is punishable by up to 7 years of imprisonment.³⁶⁵¹ Kidnapping any person with the intent to transport the individual out of the country or hold the individual for service is a crime punishable by up to 10 years of imprisonment.³⁶⁵²

The Ministry of Labor refers complaints of illegal child labor to the Attorney General for enforcement. No cases of child labor were prosecuted during 2006, the most recent year for which such information is available.³⁶⁵³

Current Government Efforts to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

Research has not identified any policies or programs by the Government of Samoa to address exploitive child labor.

³⁶⁴⁵ *Labour and Employment Act*, Article 32.

³⁶⁴⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Samoa," Section 6d.

³⁶⁴⁷ *Labour and Employment Act*, Article 41.

³⁶⁴⁸ *Constitution of the Independent State of Western Samoa*, (January 1, 1962), Article 8; available from http://www.pacii.org/ws/legis/consol_act/cotisows1960535/.

³⁶⁴⁹ Government of Samoa, *Crimes Ordinance*, (December 16, 1961), Articles 55 and 58; available from http://www.pacii.org/ws/legis/consol_act/co1961135/.

³⁶⁵⁰ *Ibid.*, Article 58.

³⁶⁵¹ *Ibid.*, Article 83B.

³⁶⁵² *Ibid.*, Article 83A.

³⁶⁵³ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Samoa," Section 6d.

São Tomé and Príncipe

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2000, approximately 17.2 percent of boys and 13.5 percent of girls 5 to 14 were working in São Tomé and Príncipe.³⁶⁶⁵ Children work in subsistence agriculture, on plantations, in informal commerce, and in domestic services.³⁶⁶⁶ Children also work in auto mechanic shops.³⁶⁶⁷

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 2000:	15.4% ³⁶⁵⁴
Minimum age for admission to work:	14 ³⁶⁵⁵
Age to which education is compulsory:	13 ³⁶⁵⁶
Free public education:	Yes ³⁶⁵⁷
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:	133% ³⁶⁵⁸
Net primary enrollment rate in 2004:	98% ³⁶⁵⁹
Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 2000:	68.8% ³⁶⁶⁰
As of 2003, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	66% ³⁶⁶¹
Ratified Convention 138:	5/4/2005 ³⁶⁶²
Ratified Convention 182:	5/4/2005 ³⁶⁶³
ILO-IPEC participating country:	No ³⁶⁶⁴

³⁶⁵⁴ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, March 1, 2007.

³⁶⁵⁵ Government of São Tomé and Príncipe, *Lei n° 6/92 de 11 de Junho*, Article 128; available from <http://www.doingbusiness.org/Documents/LawLibrary/S%C3%A3o-Tom%C3%A9-and-Principe-Lei-n%C2%B0-6.92-de-11-de-Junho.pdf>. See also UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Consideration of Reports Submitted by States Parties Under Article 44 of the Convention, Initial reports of States parties due in 1993: Sao Tome and Principe*, CRC/C/8/Add.49, March 4, 2003, 15; available from [http://www.unhchr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/0/d9dc78db076fcd54c1256e2f002df2a4/\\$FILE/G0345594.pdf](http://www.unhchr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/0/d9dc78db076fcd54c1256e2f002df2a4/$FILE/G0345594.pdf).

³⁶⁵⁶ São Tomé and Príncipe Embassy official, Interview with USDOL official, June 7, 2007. See also UNESCO, *Education for All Global Monitoring Report 2005: The Quality Imperative*, 284; available from <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0013/001373/137333e.pdf>.

³⁶⁵⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Sao Tome and Principe," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78753.htm>.

³⁶⁵⁸ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://www.stats.uis.unesco.org>.

³⁶⁵⁹ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Rate. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

³⁶⁶⁰ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

³⁶⁶¹ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Survival Rate to Grade 5. Total*, accessed December 18, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

³⁶⁶² ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, accessed December 18, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/docs/declworld.htm>.

³⁶⁶³ *Ibid.*

³⁶⁶⁴ ILO-IPEC, *IPEC Action Against Child Labour; Highlights 2006*, Geneva, October 2006; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ipcc/prod/eng/20070228_Implementationreport_en_Web.pdf.

³⁶⁶⁵ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

³⁶⁶⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Sao Tome and Principe," Section 6d.

³⁶⁶⁷ Ambrósio Quaresma, *UNICEF quer conhecer a realidade de mão de obra infantil em S. Tomé e Príncipe*, [online] [cited January 3, 2007]; available from <http://www.unicef.org/saotome/trabalho.htm>.

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The minimum age for work in São Tomé and Príncipe is 14 and the law imposes fines on those who employ underage workers.³⁶⁶⁸ The law prohibits children under the age of 18 from working in unhealthy or dangerous conditions, as well as from working underground.³⁶⁶⁹ Children under 18 may not work more than 7 hours a day and 35 hours per week.³⁶⁷⁰ The law prohibits forced or compulsory labor, including by children.³⁶⁷¹ Military service is compulsory at 18 years; 17-year-olds may volunteer with parental consent.³⁶⁷² The law also prohibits trafficking in persons.³⁶⁷³ The government has not prosecuted any cases of child labor law violations.³⁶⁷⁴

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

Research has not identified any policies or programs by the Government of São Tomé and Príncipe to address exploitive child labor.

³⁶⁶⁸ Government of São Tomé and Príncipe, *Lei n° 6/92 de 11 de Junho*, Articles 128 and 147. See also UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Consideration of Reports: Sao Tome and Principe*, 15. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Sao Tome and Principe," Section 6d.

³⁶⁶⁹ Government of São Tomé and Príncipe, *Lei n° 6/92 de 11 de Junho*, Article 129. See also UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Consideration of Reports: Sao Tome and Principe*, 15.

³⁶⁷⁰ Government of São Tomé and Príncipe, *Lei n° 6/92 de 11 de Junho*, Article 136. U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Sao Tome and Principe."

³⁶⁷¹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Sao Tome and Principe," Section 6c.

³⁶⁷² Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Sao Tome and Principe," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, London, 2004; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=792. See also UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Consideration of Reports: Sao Tome and Principe*, 16.

³⁶⁷³ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Sao Tome and Principe," Section 5.

³⁶⁷⁴ *Ibid.*

Senegal

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2005, approximately 33.4 percent of boys and 26.7 percent of girls ages 5 to 14 were working in Senegal.³⁶⁸⁶ The majority of working children can be found in agriculture, hunting, fishing, domestic service, transportation, construction, manufacturing, as well as in automobile repair shops, restaurants, and hotels. Children also work in hazardous

conditions in rock quarrying and mining. Children are exploited in such activities as begging, forced labor, prostitution, drug trafficking and other illegal activities, recycling of waste and garbage, and slaughtering of animals.³⁶⁸⁷

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 2005:	30% ³⁶⁷⁵
Minimum age for admission to work:	15 ³⁶⁷⁶
Age to which education is compulsory:	16 ³⁶⁷⁷
Free public education:	Yes ^{3678*}
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:	76% ³⁶⁷⁹
Net primary enrollment rate in 2004:	66% ³⁶⁸⁰
Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 2004:	47.9% ³⁶⁸¹
As of 2003, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	78% ³⁶⁸²
Ratified Convention 138:	12/15/1999 ³⁶⁸³
Ratified Convention 182:	6/1/2000 ³⁶⁸⁴
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Yes, associated ³⁶⁸⁵
* Must pay for school supplies and related items.	

³⁶⁷⁵ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, March 1, 2007.

³⁶⁷⁶ Government of Senegal, *Code du travail 1997*, Loi No. 97-17, (December 1, 1997); available from <http://www.gouv.sn/textes/TRAVAIL.cfm>.

³⁶⁷⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Senegal," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78754.htm>.

³⁶⁷⁸ Ibid.

³⁶⁷⁹ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

³⁶⁸⁰ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Rate. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

³⁶⁸¹ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Survival Rate to Grade 5. Total*, accessed December 18, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

³⁶⁸² Ibid.

³⁶⁸³ ILO, *Senegal ratified 37 Conventions*, [database online] [cited October 23, 2006]; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/cgi-lex/ratifce.pl?Senegal>.

³⁶⁸⁴ Ibid.

³⁶⁸⁵ ILO-IPEC, *IPEC Action Against Child Labor; Highlights 2006*, Geneva, 2006; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ipcc/prod/eng/20070228_Implementationreport_en_Web.pdf.

³⁶⁸⁶ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

³⁶⁸⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Senegal," Section 6d. Djiga Thiao et. al., *Etude des pires formes de travail des enfants dans le secteur de la peche artisanale maritime sénégalaise: Rapport final*, Dakar, December, 2002.

Senegal is a source, transit, and destination country for child trafficking.³⁶⁸⁸ Boys are trafficked within and to Senegal from The Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Mali, and Guinea for forced begging for Koranic teachers.³⁶⁸⁹ Official statistics put the total number of these boys, known as *talibés*, at over 100,000. They are vulnerable to sexual and other exploitation.³⁶⁹⁰ Some Koranic teachers bring children from rural areas to Senegal's major cities, holding them under conditions of involuntary servitude.³⁶⁹¹ Some *talibés* have revealed to NGOs and shelters that they are often beaten and shackled if they do not bring a minimum amount of money to their Koranic teachers at the end of each day. In 2005, two Koranic teachers were convicted and sentenced to prison for such abuse.³⁶⁹²

There are reports of young girls trafficked from rural to urban areas for forced domestic service. Senegalese girls are also trafficked both internally and to other countries for exploitive labor and commercial sexual exploitation.³⁶⁹³ Child prostitution occurs on beaches, in bars, and at hotels and other tourist areas.³⁶⁹⁴

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The minimum age for employment, including apprenticeships, is 15 years.³⁶⁹⁵ With permission from the Minister of Labor, children 12 years and older may perform light work within a family setting, provided that it does not jeopardize their health, morals, or schooling.³⁶⁹⁶

The Constitution protects children from economic exploitation and from involvement in hazardous work.³⁶⁹⁷ Children are prohibited from working at night and cannot work more than 8 hours a day.³⁶⁹⁸ The law also identifies businesses in which children under 18 years are forbidden from working or can work only under certain conditions. These include workshops

³⁶⁸⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Senegal," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/65990.htm>.

³⁶⁸⁹ Ibid., Section 5, U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Senegal."

³⁶⁹⁰ ECPAT International CSEC Database, *Senegal*; accessed October 13, 2006, June 15,; available from <http://www.ecpat.net>. U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Senegal," Section 5.

³⁶⁹¹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Senegal," Section 5. IRINnews.org, "Senegal: Kids beg for hours to fund Muslim teachers", Irinnews.org, [online], May 24, 2004 [cited June 16, 2006]; available from http://www.irinnews.org/report.asp?ReportID=41241&SelectRegion=West_Africa&SelectCountry=SENEGAL.

³⁶⁹² U.S. Embassy- Dakar Official, E-mail correspondence to USDOL Official, August 11, 2006.

³⁶⁹³ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Senegal," Section 5.

³⁶⁹⁴ ECPAT International CSEC Database, *Senegal*.

³⁶⁹⁵ Government of Senegal, *Code du travail 1997*, Article L. 145. Government of Senegal, *Arrêté ministériel n° 3748 MFPTEOP-DTSS en date du 6 juin 2003, relatif au travail des enfants*, (June 6, 2003), Article premier; available from <http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/docs/SERIAL/64609/64950/F1520394879/SEN64609.pdf>.

³⁶⁹⁶ Government of Senegal, *Arrêté Ministériel n° 3748 MFPTEOP-DTSS*, Article 1. See also Government of Senegal, *Arrêté ministériel n° 3750 MFPTEOP-DTSS en date du 6 juin 2003, fixant la nature des travaux dangereux interdits aux enfants et jeunes gens*, (June 6, 2003), Article 1; available from <http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/docs/SERIAL/64611/64953/F1229124862/SEN64611.pdf>.

³⁶⁹⁷ Government of Senegal, *Constitution of the Republic of Senegal*, (January 7, 2001); available from <http://www.primature.sn/textes/constitution.pdf>. See also U.S. Department of State official, electronic communication regarding Constitution of Senegal to USDOL official, August 18, 2003.

³⁶⁹⁸ Government of Senegal, *Arrêté Ministériel n° 3748 MFPTEOP-DTSS*, Article 3.

where there are toxic or harmful fumes.³⁶⁹⁹ In addition, children under 16 are prohibited from working on fishing vessels.³⁷⁰⁰

Activities considered to be worst forms of child labor are prohibited by law.³⁷⁰¹ The government has identified the worst forms of child labor as forced labor, slavery, prostitution, drug trafficking, forced begging, and work that imperils the health, safety or morality of children. Specific examples of such work include pornography involving children, gold mining, work underwater, work with toxic chemicals or complex tools and machinery.³⁷⁰² Procuring a minor for the purpose of prostitution is punishable by imprisonment for 2 to 5 years.³⁷⁰³

Under the law, traffickers are subject to imprisonment of between 5 and 10 years.³⁷⁰⁴ The minimum age for voluntary recruitment into the military is 18 years, and 20 years for compulsory recruitment.³⁷⁰⁵

The Ministry of Labor and its Social Security Inspectors are responsible for investigating child labor cases and enforcing child labor laws. However, because of a lack of resources, inspectors do not initiate workplace visits and instead depend on violations to be reported. According to the U.S. Department of State, the Ministry of Labor monitors and enforces minimum age laws within the formal sector, including in state-owned corporations, large private enterprises, and cooperatives.³⁷⁰⁶

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Government of Senegal has raised awareness of the dangers of child labor and exploitive begging through seminars with local officials, NGOs, and civil society. The government is participating in a USD 2 million, USDOL-funded, ILO-IPEC Timebound Program. The project aims to withdraw 3,000 children and prevent 6,000 children from exploitive child labor in agriculture, fishing, begging, and domestic service.³⁷⁰⁷ The government also participates in a

³⁶⁹⁹ Government of Senegal, *Arrêté ministériel n° 3751 MFPTEOP-DTSS en date du 6 juin 2003, fixant les catégories d'entreprises et travaux interdits aux enfants et jeunes gens ainsi que l'âge limite auquel s'applique l'interdiction*, (June 6, 2003), Article 2; available from

<http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/docs/SERIAL/64612/64952/F364251671/SEN64612.pdf>.

³⁷⁰⁰ Government of Senegal, *Arrêté Ministériel n° 3750 MFPTEOP-DTSS*, Article 10.

³⁷⁰¹ Government of Senegal, *Arrêté Ministériel n° 3748 MFPTEOP-DTSS*, Article 3.

³⁷⁰² Government of Senegal, *Arrêté ministériel n° 3749 MFPTEOP-DTSS en date du 6 juin 2003, fixant et interdisant les pires formes du travail des enfants*, (June 6, 2003), Article 2; available from

<http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/docs/SERIAL/64610/64951/F2020269921/SEN64610.pdf>.

³⁷⁰³ Government of Senegal, *Criminal Code, Section V: Offenses Against Public Morals*, [database online], Articles 323, 324; available from <http://209.190.246.239/protectionproject/statutesPDF/Senegal.pdf>.

³⁷⁰⁴ U.S. Embassy - Dakar, *reporting*, March 05, 2007, para 29.

³⁷⁰⁵ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Senegal," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, London, 2004; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=793.

³⁷⁰⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Senegal," Section 6d. See also Government of Senegal, *Code du travail 1997*, Article L. 146.

³⁷⁰⁷ ILO-IPEC, *Support to the Timebound Programme Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour*, TPR, technical progress report, Geneva, March 11, 2005.

French-funded ILO-IPEC project to combat child labor.³⁷⁰⁸ UNICEF also works to eliminate the worst forms of child labor through its child rights promotion and protection program.³⁷⁰⁹

To reduce the incidence of exploitive begging, the Ministry of Women, Family, Social Development, and Women's Entrepreneurship is implementing a program to help support 48 Koranic schools whose teachers do not force their students to engage in the practice.³⁷¹⁰

The Government of Senegal's Ministry of Women, Family, Social Development, and Women's Entrepreneurship operates the "Ginddi Center" in Dakar to receive and care for street children, including trafficking victims. Children from The Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Guinea, and Mali also receive assistance at the center. The Center operates a 24-hour toll-free child protection hotline.³⁷¹¹

In July 2006, Senegal was 1 of 24 countries to adopt the Multilateral Cooperative Agreement to Combat Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children, in West and Central Africa and the Joint Plan of Action against Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children in the West and Central African Regions. As part of the Multilateral Cooperative Agreement, the governments agreed to put into place the child trafficking monitoring system developed by the USDOL-funded ILO-IPEC LUTRENA project; to ensure that birth certificates and travel identity documents cannot easily be falsified or altered; to provide assistance to each other in the investigation, arrest and prosecution of trafficking offenders; to protect, rehabilitate, and reintegrate trafficking victims; and to improve educational systems, vocational training and apprenticeships.³⁷¹²

³⁷⁰⁸ ILO-IPEC official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, November 16, 2006.

³⁷⁰⁹ UNICEF, *At a Glance: Senegal*, accessed October 23, 2006; available from <http://www.unicef.org/infobycountry/senegal.html>.

³⁷¹⁰ U.S. Embassy- Dakar official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, August 11, 2006.

³⁷¹¹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Senegal," Section 5.

³⁷¹² ECOWAS and ECASS, *Multilateral Cooperation Agreement to Combat Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, in West and Central Africa*, Abuja, July 7, 2006. See also ILO-IPEC, *Combating the Trafficking of Children for Labour Exploitation in West and Central Africa (LUTRENA)*, technical progress report, Washington, DC, September 1, 2006.

The Republic of Serbia

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Children in the Republic of Serbia can be found working in rural areas on family farms or other family businesses.

Children also work in the informal sector, selling small items or washing car windows. Children from poor, rural communities, Roma children and children living with foster families are at the highest risk for

entering exploitive child labor including begging, theft, prostitution, dealing narcotics and hard physical labor, according to a study released in March 2006 by the Ministry of Labor, Employment and Social Policy and the NGO Children's Rights Center.³⁷¹⁹ Roma children are particularly vulnerable to trafficking, both abroad and internally, for forced begging and theft rings.³⁷²⁰

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working:	Unavailable
Minimum age for admission to work:	15 ³⁷¹³
Age to which education is compulsory:	15 ³⁷¹⁴
Free public education:	Yes ³⁷¹⁵
Gross primary enrollment rate:	Unavailable
Net primary enrollment rate:	Unavailable
Percent of children 5-14 attending school:	Unavailable
Percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	Unavailable
Ratified Convention 138:	11/24/00 ³⁷¹⁶
Ratified Convention 182:	7/10/03 ³⁷¹⁷
ILO-IPEC participating country:	No ³⁷¹⁸

³⁷¹³ U.S. Department of State, "Serbia," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 6d; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006>.

³⁷¹⁴ Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, *Thematic Review of National Policies for Education: Serbia*, CCNM/DEELSA/ED(2001)11, June 22, 2001, 6; available from [http://www.oecd.org/olis/2001DOC.NSF/LINKTO/CCNM-DEELSA-ED\(2001\)11](http://www.oecd.org/olis/2001DOC.NSF/LINKTO/CCNM-DEELSA-ED(2001)11).

³⁷¹⁵ ILO, *Report of the Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations (CEACR): Individual Direct Request Concerning Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138) Serbia and Montenegro (ratification: 2000) Submitted: 2006 092006SCG138*, Geneva, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/newcountryframeE.htm>.

³⁷¹⁶ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, [accessed November 2, 2006]; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/newratframeE.htm>.

³⁷¹⁷ Ibid.

³⁷¹⁸ ILO, *IPEC Action Against Child Labour: Highlights 2006*, Geneva, February 2007; available from <http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/public/english/standards/ipecc/doc-view.cfm?id=3159>.

³⁷¹⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Serbia," Section 5.

³⁷²⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Serbia and Montenegro (Tier 2 Watch List)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/65987.htm>. See also Barbara Limanowska, *Trafficking in Human Beings in South Eastern Europe 2004 - Focus on Prevention in: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Moldova, Romania, Serbia and Montenegro, the UN Administered Province of Kosovo* UNDP, New York, March 2005, 64, 117; available from <http://www.unicef.org/ceecis/Trafficking.Report.2005.pdf>.

There have been cases of girls trafficked to Serbia from Moldova and the Ukraine.³⁷²¹ Trafficking children for sexual exploitation has reportedly increased.³⁷²²

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The minimum age of employment is 15 years.³⁷²³ However, it is not clear if the minimum age for employment applies to self-employed children.³⁷²⁴ Children under 18 are prohibited from hazardous work and can only enter work upon written approval of a parent or guardian and under conditions that do not “jeopardize their health, morals and education,” including work that involves strenuous physical activity; work underground, underwater, or at dangerous heights; or exposure to toxic, carcinogenic substances, extreme temperatures, noise, or vibrations.³⁷²⁵ Further, children under 18 are not allowed to work overtime hours or at night,³⁷²⁶ and are allowed to work no more than 35 hours per week.³⁷²⁷ The law provides for monetary penalties for violation of these provisions.³⁷²⁸ According to the U.S. Department of State, the government is effectively enforcing child labor laws.³⁷²⁹

Forced labor is prohibited.³⁷³⁰ Males are eligible for conscription into the armed forces at 18, but they can be recruited for voluntary service in the year of their 17th birthday.³⁷³¹ The criminal law addresses prostitution and pornography. Prostitution involving a minor is punishable by 1 to 10 years of imprisonment. Showing pornographic materials to minors is a criminal offense.³⁷³² The penal code addresses all forms trafficking.³⁷³³ From 2005 to 2006, 15 traffickers were convicted, with sentences ranging from 2 to 8 years of imprisonment. A group of traffickers was attempting to traffic Ukrainian girls into Serbia at a border crossing in February 2006 and was interdicted by police following extensive training of police and border guards.³⁷³⁴ According to the U.S. Department of State, there were reports of corruption among some police complicit in a prostitution ring in Novi Pazar, but the government has not responded to these allegations or taken action against public officials allegedly complicit in trafficking.³⁷³⁵

³⁷²¹ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Serbia and Montenegro."

³⁷²² U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Serbia," Section 5.

³⁷²³ ILO, *Report of the Committee of Experts*.

³⁷²⁴ ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations (CEACR), *CEACR: Individual Direct Request concerning Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138) Serbia and Montenegro (ratification: 2000) Submitted: 2006 092006SCG138*, Geneva, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/newcountryframeE.htm>.

³⁷²⁵ *Ibid.*

³⁷²⁶ *Ibid.*

³⁷²⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Serbia," Section 6d.

³⁷²⁸ ILO, *Report of the Committee of Experts*.

³⁷²⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Serbia," Section 6d.

³⁷³⁰ *Ibid.*, Section 6c.

³⁷³¹ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Serbia and Montenegro," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, London, 2004.

³⁷³² OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights Legislationline, *Serbia: Children*; accessed January 30, 2007, available from <http://www.legislationline.org/?tid=197&jid=44&less=false>.

³⁷³³ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Serbia and Montenegro."

³⁷³⁴ *Ibid.* See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Serbia," Section 5.

³⁷³⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Serbia and Montenegro."

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Ministry of Labor, Employment and Social Issues includes child labor prevention in its regular protection programs for children and families.³⁷³⁶ The National Council submitted an anti-trafficking strategy for 2006-2009 to the Serbian Government for approval, and the government is implementing elements of the plan. To prevent trafficking, the government's officers have refused more than 4,000 visa applications from countries of known origin of trafficking.³⁷³⁷

³⁷³⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Serbia," Section 6d.

³⁷³⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Serbia and Montenegro."

Seychelles

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

No changes have been recorded since the last reporting period regarding the incidence and nature of child labor in Seychelles.*

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:	110% ³⁷³⁸
Net primary enrollment rate in 2004:	96% ³⁷³⁹

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

No changes have been recorded since the last reporting period regarding child labor laws and enforcement in Seychelles.*

Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

Research has not identified any policies or programs by the Government of Seychelles to address exploitive child labor.

* For more information, please refer to the U.S. Department of Labor's *2005 Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labor*.

³⁷³⁸ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

³⁷³⁹ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Rate. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

Sierra Leone

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Children in Sierra Leone work in family businesses, petty vending, and on family subsistence farms.³⁷⁴⁹ Street children are employed by adults to sell, steal, and beg. Children also mine alluvial diamond fields.³⁷⁵⁰

Within Sierra Leone, children are trafficked to urban areas, where they work in domestic service or engage in prostitution. Children are also trafficked to diamond mining areas, where they are sexually exploited or compelled to work in mining.³⁷⁵¹

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working:	69.1% ³⁷⁴⁰
Minimum age for admission to work:	12 ³⁷⁴¹
Age to which education is compulsory:	12 ³⁷⁴²
Free public education:	Yes ^{3743*}
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:	145% ³⁷⁴⁴
Net primary enrollment rate:	Unavailable
Percent of children 5-14 attending school:	42.7% ³⁷⁴⁵
As of 2001, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	Unavailable
Ratified ILO Convention 138:	No ³⁷⁴⁶
Ratified ILO Convention 182:	No ³⁷⁴⁷
ILO-IPEC participating country:	No ³⁷⁴⁸
*Must pay for school supplies and related items.	

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum age for employment in "light" labor at 12.³⁷⁵² Children between the ages of 12 and 18 may perform work in certain non-hazardous occupations, if they have

³⁷⁴⁰ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, October 7, 2005.

³⁷⁴¹ U.S. Department of State, "Sierra Leone," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006* Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 6d; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78756.htm>.

³⁷⁴² Ibid. See also U.S. Embassy - Freetown, *reporting*, January 5, 2007, para 5 and 3.

³⁷⁴³ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Sierra Leone," Section 5.

³⁷⁴⁴ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total* accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

³⁷⁴⁵ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

³⁷⁴⁶ ILO, *Ratifications by Country: Sierra Leone*, September 25, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/docs/declAFpr.htm>.

³⁷⁴⁷ Ibid.

³⁷⁴⁸ ILO-IPEC, *IPEC Action Against Child Labour-Highlights 2006*, Geneva, October, 2006; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ipcc/prod/eng/20061019_Implementationreport_eng_Web.pdf.

³⁷⁴⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Sierra Leone," Section 6d.

³⁷⁵⁰ Ibid.

³⁷⁵¹ U.S. Embassy - Freetown, *reporting. January 5, 2007*, para 2.

³⁷⁵² U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Sierra Leone," Section 6d.

parental consent.³⁷⁵³ Children under the age of 15 may not engage in any public or private industrial undertaking.³⁷⁵⁴

The use of forced and bonded labor, including by children, is prohibited by the law.³⁷⁵⁵ The law prohibits commercial sexual exploitation of children and defines a child as a person under 16. Procuring or attempting to procure a girl for prostitution is punishable by up to 2 years in prison.³⁷⁵⁶ The law criminalizes all forms of human trafficking.³⁷⁵⁷ The law also prohibits any person under the apparent age of 17 and 6 months from enlisting in the armed forces without parental consent.³⁷⁵⁸

The Ministry of Labor, Social Security and Industrial Relations is charged with administering existing labor laws and preventing the worst forms of child labor.³⁷⁵⁹ The Ministry of Mineral Resources enforces prohibitions against the use of child labor in mining activities.³⁷⁶⁰ According to the U.S. Department of State, the government lacks the resources to enforce existing labor laws.³⁷⁶¹

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

In July 2006, Sierra Leone was 1 of 24 countries to adopt the Multilateral Cooperative Agreement to Combat Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, in West and Central Africa and the Joint Plan of Action against Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children in the West and Central African Regions.³⁷⁶²

In partnership with the Government of Sierra Leone and with funding from USDOL, the International Rescue Committee is implementing a USD 6 million Child Labor Education Initiative project in Sierra Leone and Liberia. The project aims to withdraw a total of 8,243 children and prevent a total of 21,647 children from exploitive child labor by improving access to and quality of education.³⁷⁶³ Sierra Leone also participates in a 5-year, USDOL-funded

³⁷⁵³ International Rescue Committee, *Child Labor and Education in Sierra Leone: Needs and Resource Assessment in Targeted Communities*, New York, June 2006, 35; available from <http://www.theirc.org>.

³⁷⁵⁴ *Ibid.*

³⁷⁵⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Sierra Leone," Sections 6c and 6d.

³⁷⁵⁶ Government of Sierra Leone, *Prevention of Cruelty to Children Ordinance*, [1926], [cited October 17, 2006], Part I (Article 2) and Part II (Articles 6-13); available from <http://www.sierra-leone.org/Laws/preventionofcrueltytochildren.html>.

³⁷⁵⁷ UNICEF, *Sierra Leone Signs Anti-Trafficking Act*, [online] [cited October 17, 2006]; available from http://www.unicef.org/media/media_28011.html.

³⁷⁵⁸ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, London, 2004, 96; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=966.

³⁷⁵⁹ Government of Sierra Leone, *MLIRSS State of the Nation Report*, Freetown, 2002; available from http://www.daco-sl.org/encyclopedia/1_gov/1_2/MLIRSS/MLIRSS_state_of_nation.pdf.

³⁷⁶⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Sierra Leone," Section 6d.

³⁷⁶¹ U.S. Embassy - Freetown, *reporting. January 5, 2007*, para 2-4.

³⁷⁶² ECOWAS and ECASS, *Multilateral Cooperation Agreement to Combat Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, in West and Central Africa*, Abuja, July 7, 2006. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Sierra Leone," Section 5.

³⁷⁶³ International Rescue Committee, *Countering Youth and Child Labour through Education (CYCLE)*, draft project document, New York, May 2006, 29.

Reducing Child Labor through Education (CIRCLE 1) global project, being implemented by Winrock International through 2007, which aims to reduce exploitive child labor through the provision of educational opportunities.³⁷⁶⁴

³⁷⁶⁴ Winrock International, *Project Fact sheet: Reducing Child labor through Education (CIRCLE 1)*; available from <http://www.winrock.org/fact/facts.asp?CC=5411&bu=>.

Solomon Islands

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Anecdotal evidence suggests that children, both boys and girls, are exploited through prostitution in the logging, tourism and fishing industries near logging camps and fishing ports and in Honiara, the capital city.³⁷⁷⁴ Anecdotal evidence also suggests that children work in logging camps as cooks and in other tasks and are

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working:	Unavailable
Minimum age of work:	12 ³⁷⁶⁵
Age to which education is compulsory:	Not compulsory ³⁷⁶⁶
Free public education:	Yes ³⁷⁶⁷
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2002:	107% ³⁷⁶⁸
Net primary enrollment rate in 2002:	72% ³⁷⁶⁹
Percent of children 5-14 attending school:	Unavailable
As of 2001, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	80% ³⁷⁷⁰
Ratified Convention 138:	No ³⁷⁷¹
Ratified Convention 182:	No ³⁷⁷²
ILO-IPEC participating country:	No ³⁷⁷³

³⁷⁶⁵ Pacific Islands Legal Information Institute, *Laws of Solomon Islands, Labour Act, Chapter 73*, [online] [cited November 9, 2006], Section 5; available from http://www.pacii.org/sb/legis/consol_act/la84. See also U.S. Department of State, "Solomon Islands," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2005*, Washington, DC, March 8, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2005/61627.htm>.

³⁷⁶⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2005: Solomon Islands," Section 5.

³⁷⁶⁷ Ibid.

³⁷⁶⁸ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross and Net Enrolment Ratios, Primary*, accessed December 2005; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/TableView/tableView.aspx?ReportId=51>.

³⁷⁶⁹ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross and Net Enrolment Ratios, Primary*; accessed December 2005; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/TableView/tableView.aspx?ReportId=51>.

³⁷⁷⁰ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *School life expectancy, % of repeaters, survival rates*; accessed December 2005; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/TableView/tableView.aspx?ReportId=55>.

³⁷⁷¹ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, accessed November 9, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/newratframeE.htm>.

³⁷⁷² Ibid.

³⁷⁷³ ILO, *IPEC Action Against Child Labour: Highlights 2006*, [online] [cited October 29, 2006]; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ippec/prod/eng/20061019_Implementationreport_eng_Web.pdf.

³⁷⁷⁴ Rory Callinan, "Sold and Abused," *Time*, March 27, 2006. See also Department of Home Affairs official, Interview with USDOL, June 20, 2006. See also Solomon Islands National Council of Women official, Interview with USDOL consultant, June 23, 2006. See also Solomon Islands Port Authority official, Interview with USDOL consultant, June 28, 2006. See also UNICEF official, Interview with USDOL consultant, June 26, 2006. See also ECPAT International CSEC Database, *Solomon Islands*, accessed November 9, 2006; available from http://www.ecpat.net/eng/Ecpat_inter/projects/monitoring/online_database/Countries.asp?arrCountryID=158&CountryProfile=facts,affiliation,humanrights&CSEC=Overview,Prostitution,Pronography,trafficking&Implement=Coordination_cooperation,Prevention,Protection,Recovery,ChildParticipation&Nationalplans=National_plan_s_of_action&orgWorkCSEC=orgWorkCSEC&DisplayBy=optDisplayCategory&GetcategoryName=Overview.

involved in the sale and production of kwaso (homebrewed alcohol).³⁷⁷⁵

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law prohibits the employment of children under 12.³⁷⁷⁶ Children under 12 may participate in light agricultural or domestic labor if they are employed by or in the company of their parents.³⁷⁷⁷ Children under 15 are prohibited from working in industry or on ships, except on approved training ships.³⁷⁷⁸ Children under 16 are completely prohibited from working in mines.³⁷⁷⁹ Male children between 16 and 17 years are allowed to work in mines, but must first obtain a medical certificate to do so.³⁷⁸⁰ Children between 16 and 18 are prohibited from working on ships, with some exceptions. Male children between 16 and 18 may be employed on ships that are mainly propelled by means other than steam, provided that the male child is first certified by a medical practitioner.³⁷⁸¹ Male children between 16 and 18 may begin work on a ship without medical clearance, provided that the male child is examined and certified at the first place of call where a medical practitioner is available.³⁷⁸² Male children between 16 and 18 are prohibited to work during the night in any industrial undertaking.³⁷⁸³

Forced or compulsory labor is prohibited,³⁷⁸⁴ as is the procurement of girls less than 18 years for the purpose of prostitution.³⁷⁸⁵ There are no armed forces in the Solomon Islands; however, the minimum age for recruitment into the border police force is 18.³⁷⁸⁶ There are no laws that specifically ban trafficking, but there are several general provisions in the penal code that may be used to prosecute acts of trafficking.³⁷⁸⁷

The Commissioner of Labor is responsible for enforcing child labor laws,³⁷⁸⁸ however, the Labor Department, over which the Commissioner of Labor presides, does not have labor officers to investigate reports of child labor violations or to enforce the law.³⁷⁸⁹ According to

³⁷⁷⁵ Police official, Interview with USDOL consultant, September 3, 2006. See also Central Magistrate's Court official, Interview with USDOL consultant, June 23, 2006. See also Labor Department official, Interview with USDOL consultant, June 12, 2006. See also Department of Home Affairs official, Interview, June 20, 2006.

³⁷⁷⁶ Pacific Islands Legal Information Institute, *Labor Act*, Article 46.

³⁷⁷⁷ *Ibid.*

³⁷⁷⁸ *Ibid.*, Article 47.

³⁷⁷⁹ *Ibid.*, Article 48.

³⁷⁸⁰ *Ibid.*, Article 49.

³⁷⁸¹ *Ibid.*

³⁷⁸² *Ibid.*

³⁷⁸³ *Ibid.*

³⁷⁸⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Solomon Islands," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78791.htm>.

³⁷⁸⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2005: Solomon Islands," Section 5. See also, *Constitution of the Solomon Islands, 1978*, Article 6; available from http://www.vanuatu.usp.ac.fj/paclawmat/Solomon_Islands_legislation/Solomons_Constitution.html [hard copy on file].

³⁷⁸⁶ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, *Child Soldiers Global Report, Solomon Islands*, London 2004; available from www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=877.

³⁷⁸⁷ ECPAT International CSEC Database, *Solomon Islands*.

³⁷⁸⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2005: Solomon Islands," Section 5.

³⁷⁸⁹ Labor Department official, Interview, June 12, 2006.

the U.S. Department of State, the government devotes few resources to investigating child labor cases.³⁷⁹⁰

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

In coordination with the Government of the Solomon Islands, UNICEF is planning activities to address the problem of commercial sexual exploitation of children.³⁷⁹¹

³⁷⁹⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2005: Solomon Islands," Section 6d.

³⁷⁹¹ UNICEF official, Interview, June 26, 2006.

Somalia

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Children in rural areas of Somalia are more likely to work than those in urban areas, and perform mostly unpaid farm work.³⁷⁹⁶ Children often work in herding and agricultural labor, starting at a young age, and are rarely employed in the formal sector.³⁷⁹⁷ Children who work in markets and on the streets, including children who sell *khat*, a leaf chewed for its stimulant effect, are vulnerable to violence perpetrated by armed clan militias.³⁷⁹⁸

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working:	Unavailable
Minimum age for admission to work:	Unavailable
Age to which education is compulsory:	13 ³⁷⁹²
Free public education:	No
Gross primary enrollment rate:	Unavailable
Net primary enrollment rate:	Unavailable
Percent of children 5-14 attending school:	Unavailable
Percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	Unavailable
Ratified Convention 138:	No ³⁷⁹³
Ratified Convention 182:	No ³⁷⁹⁴
ILO-IPEC participating country:	No ³⁷⁹⁵

Child prostitution is practiced in the country; however, there is little statistical data available on the extent of the problem.³⁷⁹⁹ Somalia is a source country for child trafficking.³⁸⁰⁰ Somali children are reportedly trafficked for forced labor and sexual exploitation by armed militias.³⁸⁰¹ Other organized groups are reported to traffic children to South Africa for sexual exploitation. There are reports of children sent to live with relatives and friends in western countries where they work, and send earnings back to family members in Somalia.³⁸⁰²

³⁷⁹² UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Ending Age of Compulsory Education*, accessed October 21, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

³⁷⁹³ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, accessed October 20, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/newratframeE.htm>.

³⁷⁹⁴ Ibid.

³⁷⁹⁵ ILO-IPEC, *All About IPEC: Programme Countries*, [online] 2001 [cited March 7, 2007]; available from http://www.ilo.org/public/english/standards/ipecc/about/countries/t_country.htm.

³⁷⁹⁶ World Bank, *Socio-Economic Survey Somalia 2002*, accessed May 28, 2003, 21; available from <http://www.worldbank.org/afr/so/surveydoc.htm>.

³⁷⁹⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Somalia," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/>.

³⁷⁹⁸ Ibid, Sections 1a and 5.

³⁷⁹⁹ Ibid, Section 5.

³⁸⁰⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Somalia," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/>. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Somalia," Section 5.

³⁸⁰¹ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Somalia."

³⁸⁰² Ibid. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Somalia," Section 5. See also Integrated Regional News Networks, "SOMALIA: Tragic Cargo - Part One", IRINnews.org, [online], June 8, 2006 [cited October 18, 2006]; available from <http://www.irinnews.org>.

The use of children in armed conflict is a problem in Somalia. Many children are members of armed gangs and militias. According to the U.S. Department of State, the recruitment of children into militias and other armed groups increased during 2006. It has been reported that the Supreme Council of Islamic Courts forcibly recruited some children in 2006. There are no reports of minors serving in the Somaliland Republic's armed forces, though it is difficult to determine the age of recruits because of a lack of birth registration records.³⁸⁰³

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

Somalia has been without a functioning central government since 1991. During the reporting period, control was exerted by four different entities: the Transitional Federal Government (TFG) based in Baidoa, the Supreme Council of Islamic Courts in and around Mogadishu, the self-appointed Independent Republic of Somaliland in the northwest, and the semi-autonomous region of Puntland in the northeast.³⁸⁰⁴ Although pre-1991 laws prohibited child labor and trafficking, existing government entities have no means for enforcing labor laws.

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

Research has not identified any policies or programs by the TFG to address exploitive child labor.

³⁸⁰³ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Somalia," Sections 5 and 6d. See also Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Somalia," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, London, 2004; available from <http://www.child-soldiers.org/resources/global-reports>.

³⁸⁰⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Somalia."

South Africa

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Working children in South Africa are often found in family enterprises without pay, primarily in agriculture and trade.³⁸¹⁴ A higher proportion of children in rural areas than urban areas are engaged in some type of work.³⁸¹⁵ Rural children fetch wood and water and work in commercial agriculture and on subsistence farms planting and harvesting vegetables, picking and packing fruit, and cutting flowers.³⁸¹⁶ Children work as paid domestic servants in the homes of third parties, particularly in urban areas. Many work as unpaid domestic servants, especially on subsistence farms.³⁸¹⁷ In urban areas, children work on the

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working:	Unavailable
Minimum age for admission to work:	15 ³⁸⁰⁵
Age to which education is compulsory:	15 ³⁸⁰⁶
Free public education:	No ^{3807*}
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2003:	105% ³⁸⁰⁸
Net primary enrollment rate in 2003:	89% ³⁸⁰⁹
Percent of children 5-14 attending school:	Unavailable
As of 2002, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	84% ³⁸¹⁰
Ratified Convention 138:	03/30/2000 ³⁸¹¹
Ratified Convention 182:	06/07/2000 ³⁸¹²
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Yes ³⁸¹³
*Poor households may claim an exemption from school fees.	

³⁸⁰⁵ U.S. Department of State, "South Africa," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2005*, Washington, D.C., March 8, 2006, Section 6d; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2005/61593.htm>.

³⁸⁰⁶ *Government of South Africa, South African Schools Act, No. 84 of 1996, (November 15, 1996), Chapter 2, Sections 3(1), 5, 6.*

³⁸⁰⁷ U.S. Consulate- Johannesburg, *reporting*, September 3, 2004, para 9.

³⁸⁰⁸ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total* accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

³⁸⁰⁹ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total* accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

³⁸¹⁰ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Survival Rate to Grade 5. Total* accessed December 18, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

³⁸¹¹ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*; accessed September 25, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/docs/declAFpr.htm>.

³⁸¹² *Ibid.*

³⁸¹³ ILO-IPEC, *IPEC action against child labour-highlights 2006*, Geneva, October, 2006; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ipcc/prod/eng/20061019_Implementationreport_eng_Web.pdf.

³⁸¹⁴ Dawie Bosch & Associates, *Towards a National Child Labour Action Programme for South Africa*, Pretoria, October 2002, 19; available from http://www.labour.gov.za/useful_docs/doc_display.jsp?id=9504. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2005: South Africa," Section 6d.

³⁸¹⁵ Dawie Bosch & Associates, *Towards a National Child Labour Action Programme*, 19.

³⁸¹⁶ U.S. Consulate- Johannesburg, *reporting*, September 3, 2004, para 2.

³⁸¹⁷ Debbie Budlender and Dawie Bosch, *Child Domestic Workers: A National Report; No 39*, ILO-IPEC, Geneva, May, 2002, ix, x, and xii; available from <http://www.ilo.org/public/english/standards/ipcc/simpoc/southafrica/others/domestic.pdf>.

streets as vendors, car guards, trolley attendants, shop assistants, and taxi conductors.³⁸¹⁸ Some children are forced into prostitution to support their families.³⁸¹⁹

South Africa is a country of origin, transit, and destination for children trafficked for sexual exploitation and forced labor.³⁸²⁰ Girls are trafficked from Mozambique, Swaziland, Tanzania, China, and Thailand into South Africa for sexual exploitation.³⁸²¹ Boys are trafficked to South Africa for forced agricultural work from neighboring countries.³⁸²² Boys and girls are trafficked from Lesotho to South Africa for sexual exploitation.³⁸²³ Trafficking of children from rural areas to urban areas for domestic service is also a problem.³⁸²⁴ South African girls are occasionally trafficked to Asian and European countries for sexual exploitation.³⁸²⁵

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law establishes the minimum age for employment at 15 years.³⁸²⁶ Employers may hire children less than 15 to work in the performing arts with permission from the South African Department of Labor.³⁸²⁷ Children who are under 18 years may not perform work that is harmful to their well-being and development.³⁸²⁸ The Minister of Labor is authorized to set additional restrictions on the employment of children 15 years and above.³⁸²⁹ The law provides for the right of every child, defined as a person less than 18 years, to be protected from age-inappropriate and exploitive labor practices.³⁸³⁰ The penalty for illegally employing a child under the law is a fine or a maximum jail term of 3 years.³⁸³¹

³⁸¹⁸ ILO-IPEC, *HIV/AIDS and Child Labour in South Africa: A rapid assessment*, Paper No. 4, March 2003, 27 and 38.

³⁸¹⁹ U.S. Consulate- Johannesburg, *reporting, September 3, 2004*, para 10.

³⁸²⁰ U.S. Department of State, "South Africa (Tier 2 Watch List)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/65990.htm>.

³⁸²¹ *Ibid.* See also U.S. Department of State, "Tanzania (Tier 2 Watch List)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/65990.htm>. See also U.S. Department of State, "South Africa," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006* Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 5; available from

<http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78758.htm>. See also International Organization for Migration, *The Trafficking of Women and Children in the Southern African Region*, Pretoria, March 24, 2003, 11; available from <http://www.iom.int/documents/publication/en/southernafrika%5Ftrafficking.pdf>.

³⁸²² U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: South Africa."

³⁸²³ International Organization for Migration, *Trafficking of Women and Children- Southern African Region*, 12.

³⁸²⁴ U.S. Consulate- Johannesburg, *reporting, September 3, 2004*, para 5.

³⁸²⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: South Africa."

³⁸²⁶ Government of South Africa, *Basic Conditions of Employment Act 75 of 1997*, (December 5, 1997), 43(1)(a)(b), 43(3), 93; available from http://www.workinfo.com/free/Sub_for_legres/data/bcea1998.htm.

³⁸²⁷ U.S. Consulate- Johannesburg, *reporting, September 3, 2004*, para 4. See also South African Department of Labour, *Sectoral Determination 10: Children in the Performance of Advertising, Artistic and Cultural Activities*, 2007; available from http://www.labour.gov.za/legislation/sectoral_display.jsp?id=7213.

³⁸²⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: South Africa," Section 6d. See also Government of South Africa, *Amended Basic Conditions of Employment Act*, (2002), Section 43 (1-2); available from http://www.labour.gov.za/act/section_detail.jsp?legislationId=5538&actId=6178§ionId=6980.

³⁸²⁹ Government of South Africa, *Basic Conditions of Employment Act*, Sections 44(1), 44(2).

³⁸³⁰ Government of South Africa, *Constitution of the Republic of South Africa*, (December 10, 1996), Chapter 2, Sections 28(3), 28(1)(e) and (f); available from <http://www.concourt.gov.za/constitution/const02.html#28>.

³⁸³¹ Government of South Africa, *Basic Conditions of Employment Act*, Sections 43(1)(a)(b), 43(3), 44(2), 48, and 11(93).

The law prohibits all forms of forced labor and establishes a maximum penalty of 3 years in prison for imposing forced labor on another person.³⁸³² The law specifically bans the trafficking of children.³⁸³³ The maximum penalty for violating this law is 20 imprisonment.³⁸³⁴ The law establishes 18 years as the minimum age for voluntary military service, military training, and conscription, even in times of national emergency.³⁸³⁵ The law criminalizes the sexual exploitation of children and sets a penalty of up to 10 years of imprisonment and/or a fine for any person who participates in or is involved in such activity.³⁸³⁶ The law also states that children can be arrested for prostitution despite being victims of commercial sexual exploitation. Such cases, however, are generally referred by the Office of the National Director of Public Prosecutions to children's courts, which determine the children's need for care.³⁸³⁷

The South African Department of Labor (SADOL) is tasked with enforcing child labor laws. There are approximately 1,000 labor inspectors nationwide, who have the responsibility of enforcing labor laws, including child labor.³⁸³⁸ According to the U.S. Department of State, the SADOL adequately enforces child labor laws in the formal non-agricultural sector, but less so in other sectors.³⁸³⁹

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The South African Social Security Agency provides grant assistance to some children 13 years and under to help them meet basic necessities and stay out of the workforce.³⁸⁴⁰ The Child Protection Unit (CPU) and the Family Violence, Child Protection, and the Sexual Offenses Unit (FCS) within the South African Police Service also are involved in child protection. The CPU offers services to child victims; it also investigates and raises awareness of crimes against children.³⁸⁴¹

The Government of South Africa enacted the Children's Bill in 2006. This new legislation specifically outlaws the trafficking of children, creates children's courts, and establishes a child protection register.³⁸⁴²

³⁸³² Ibid., 48 and 11 (93).

³⁸³³ U.S. Department of State, *reporting*, January 10, 2007, para 1a.

³⁸³⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: South Africa," Section 5.

³⁸³⁵ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, *Child Soldiers Global Report* [online] 2004 [cited October 19, 2006]; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=797.

³⁸³⁶ Government of South Africa, *Child Care Amendment Act*, (1999), Section 50A.

³⁸³⁷ Government of South Africa, *The National Child Labour Action Programme for South Africa, Draft 4.10*, Pretoria, October 2003, 21; available from http://www.labour.gov.za/useful_docs/doc_display.jsp?id=9503. See also *Forbidden or forgiven? The legal status of sex work in South Africa*, October 1999 [cited October 19, 2006]; available from http://www.communitylawcentre.org.za/gender/gendernews1999/1999_2_sex.php#sex.

³⁸³⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: South Africa," Section 6d.

³⁸³⁹ U.S. Consulate- Johannesburg, *reporting, September 3, 2004*, para 5. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2005: South Africa," Section 6d. See also U.S. Consulate- Johannesburg, *reporting*, October 5, 2001, para 8.

³⁸⁴⁰ U.S. Department of State, *reporting*, September 1, 2005, para 1 and 2c. See also, Government of South Africa, *National Child Labour Action Programme*, 19.

³⁸⁴¹ *Child Protection Unit*, August, 2003 [cited October 19, 2006]; available from <http://www.saspcan.org.za/childprot.htm>.

³⁸⁴² U.S. Department of State, *reporting*, January 10, 2007, para 1a.

The SADOL chairs the Child Labor Intersectoral Group (CLIG), a national stakeholder group that coordinates anti-child labor activities conducted by the government, unions, and NGOs, and raises awareness about child labor and the enforcement of child labor laws.³⁸⁴³

In collaboration with the government, ILO-IPEC is implementing a USD 5 million USDOL-funded regional child labor project in Southern Africa, which includes South Africa. Efforts in South Africa are focused on supporting the Government of South Africa's Child Labor Program of Action by raising awareness, enhancing capacity for policy implementation and monitoring, and through direct action programs.³⁸⁴⁴ This project aims to withdraw 688 children and prevent 2,216 children from engaging in exploitive labor.³⁸⁴⁵ The American Institutes for Research is also implementing a USD 9 million regional Child Labor Education Initiative project funded by USDOL in Southern Africa. It is also working with the Government of South Africa to improve quality and access to basic and vocational education for South African children who are working in, or are at risk of working in, the worst forms of child labor.³⁸⁴⁶ Over its lifetime, this project intends to prevent 10,000 children in five countries, including South Africa, from engaging in exploitive labor.³⁸⁴⁷

³⁸⁴³ Dawie Bosch & Associates, *Towards a National Child Labour Action Programme*, 8.

³⁸⁴⁴ ILO-IPEC, *Supporting the Time-Bound Programme to eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor in South Africa's Child Labor Action Programme and laying the basis for concerted action against Worst Forms of Child Labor in Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia, and Swaziland*, project document, September 30, 2003, 30.

³⁸⁴⁵ ILO-IPEC, *Supporting the Time-Bound Programme to eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor in South Africa's Child Labor Action Programme and laying the basis for concerted action against Worst Forms of Child Labor in Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia, and Swaziland*, project revision, November 3, 2006, Annexure 2.

³⁸⁴⁶ ECLT Foundation, *ECLT Foundation Program in Uganda 2003-2006: The Project for Elimination of Child Labour from Tobacco Farms in Masindi District, Uganda*, [online] November 14, 2004 [cited May 26, 2004], 1,2; available from <http://www.eclt.org/filestore/UgandaProgramme.pdf>.

³⁸⁴⁷ American Institutes for Research, *Reducing Exploitive Child Labor Southern Africa (RECLISA)*, project document, Washington September 8, 2005, 22.

Sri Lanka

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 1998, approximately 17.9 percent of boys and 11.9 percent of girls ages 5 to 14 were working in Sri Lanka. The majority of working children were found in the agricultural sector (71.5 percent), followed by services (14.8 percent), manufacturing (13.1 percent) and other sectors (0.7 percent).³⁸⁵⁸ Children

work in both plantation and non-plantation agriculture, as well as in seasonal agriculture for families.³⁸⁵⁹ Children also work in the informal sector, which includes family enterprises, small restaurants, stores, and repair shops, in small-scale manufacturing and crafts.³⁸⁶⁰ Children also

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 1998:	15% ³⁸⁴⁸
Minimum age for admission to work:	14 ³⁸⁴⁹
Age to which education is compulsory:	14 ³⁸⁵⁰
Free public education:	Yes ³⁸⁵¹
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:	98% ³⁸⁵²
Net primary enrollment rate in 2004:	97% ³⁸⁵³
Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 1998:	97.1% ³⁸⁵⁴
Percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	Unavailable
Ratified Convention 138:	2/11/00 ³⁸⁵⁵
Ratified Convention 182:	3/1/01 ³⁸⁵⁶
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Yes ³⁸⁵⁷

³⁸⁴⁸ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, March 1, 2007.

³⁸⁴⁹ Government of Sri Lanka, *Employment of Women, Young Persons, and Children Act of 1956* No. 47 (November 7, 1956), Articles 13, 34(1).

³⁸⁵⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Sri Lanka," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78875.htm>. See also Government of Sri Lanka, *Compulsory Attendance of Children at Schools Regulation No. 1 of 1997*, (November 18, 1997).

³⁸⁵¹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Sri Lanka," Section 5.

³⁸⁵² UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

³⁸⁵³ Ibid.

³⁸⁵⁴ Ibid.

³⁸⁵⁵ APPLIS, *List of Ratifications of International Labour Standards: Sri Lanka*, March 30, 2007; available from <http://webfusion.ilo.org/public/db/standards/normes/appl/appl-byCtry.cfm?lang=EN&CTYCHOICE=1750&hdroff=1>.

³⁸⁵⁶ Ibid.

³⁸⁵⁷ ILO, *IPEC Action Against Child Labour: Highlights 2006*, Geneva, February 2007, 29; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ipcc/prod/eng/20070228_Implementationreport_en_Web.pdf.

³⁸⁵⁸ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

³⁸⁵⁹ ILO-IPEC, *Child Labour and Responses: Overview Note Sri Lanka*, November 2004, 1; available from <http://www.ilo.org/public/english/region/asro/newdelhi/ipcc/download/srilanka.pdf>. See also ILO-IPEC, *Emergency Response to Child Labour in Selected Tsunami Affected Areas in Sri Lanka*, project document, Geneva, February 25, 2005, 10. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Sri Lanka," Section 6d.

³⁸⁶⁰ U.S. Embassy-Colombo, *reporting*, September 7, 2005. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Sri Lanka," Section 6d.

work as domestic servants.³⁸⁶¹ Some children from rural areas are reportedly victimized in debt bondage as domestic servants in urban households.³⁸⁶²

The prostitution of children is widespread in the country. The majority of children in prostitution are exploited by local citizens, though there are reports of sex tourism as well.³⁸⁶³ Children are reportedly trafficked internally and internationally for sexual exploitation and domestic labor.³⁸⁶⁴ Some internally trafficked children, mostly boys, are lured from the conflict-ridden northern and eastern provinces to southern beach and mountain resorts to work in the sex industry, sometimes at their parents' request.³⁸⁶⁵

Conflict intensified in Sri Lanka during 2006 and the use of children in armed conflict remained a pressing concern.³⁸⁶⁶ Reports indicate that the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), an armed terrorist group fighting for a separate ethnic Tamil state, continue to heavily recruit, often forcibly, thousands of children as soldiers. The LTTE recruit and abduct children as young as 8 to serve in combat and in various battlefield support functions. Many of those recruited by the LTTE are girls.³⁸⁶⁷ Additionally, forcible recruitment of child soldiers by Karuna, a break-off LTTE faction, increased markedly in 2006. Reports from UNICEF indicate that as of October 2006, 1,598 recruited children remained with the LTTE, and 164 were recruited by Karuna.³⁸⁶⁸ There are no indications that the government is using child soldiers.³⁸⁶⁹

Children continue to be affected by the Indian Ocean tsunami that struck Sri Lanka on December 26, 2004.³⁸⁷⁰ Thousands of children were orphaned or separated from their families,

³⁸⁶¹ Nayomi Kannangara, Harendra de Silva, and Nilaksi Parndigamage, *Sri Lanka Child Domestic Labour: A Rapid Assessment*, ILO-IPEC, Geneva, September 2003, 12; available from <http://www.ilo.org/public/english/standards/ipecc/simpoc/srilanka/ra/domestic.pdf>. See also Bharati Pflug, *An Overview of Child Domestic Workers in Asia*, 2003, 5, 13; available from http://www.ilo.org/public/english/standards/ipecc/publ/childdomestic/overview_child.pdf.

³⁸⁶² U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Sri Lanka," Section 6c, 6d.

³⁸⁶³ *Ibid.*, Section 5. See also ECPAT International CSEC Database, *Sri Lanka* accessed September 22, 2006; available from <http://www.ecpat.net>.

³⁸⁶⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Sri Lanka (Tier 2)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/65990.htm>.

³⁸⁶⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Sri Lanka," Section 5. See also Sarath W. Amarasinghe, *Sri Lanka: The Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children: A Rapid Assessment*, ILO-IPEC, Geneva, February 2002, xvii; available from <http://www-ilo-mirror.cornell.edu/public/english/standards/ipecc/simpoc/srilanka/ra/cse.pdf>.

³⁸⁶⁶ U.S. Embassy - Colombo, *reporting*, December 14, 2006, 9. See also United Nations Security Council, *Report of the Secretary-General on Children and Armed Conflict in Sri Lanka*, December 20, 2006, 2-5; available from http://www.crin.org/docs/UNSG_Report_CAC_SriLanka_E.pdf. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Sri Lanka," Introduction.

³⁸⁶⁷ U.S. Embassy - Colombo, *reporting*, December 14, 2006, 9. See also Save the Children- UK, *Girls and Conflict - Forgotten Casualties of War*, London, April 27, 2005, I; available from <http://www.rb.se/NR/rdonlyres/C0A44378-E6CE-4C74-9EF5-535E673B8FD1/0/GirlsandConflictForgottencasualtiesofwar.pdf>.

³⁸⁶⁸ U.S. Embassy - Colombo, *reporting*, December 14, 2006, 9. See also United Nations Security Council, *Report of the Secretary-General on Children and Armed Conflict in Sri Lanka*, 5, 8.

³⁸⁶⁹ Human Rights Watch, *World Report 2006*, New York, January, 2006, 308-309; available from <http://www.hrw.org/wr2k6/>. See also Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Sri Lanka," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, London, 2004; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=878.

³⁸⁷⁰ ADB, *Sri Lanka: Tsunami Summary*, [online] December 8, 2005 [cited October 10, 2006]; available from http://www.adb.org/media/Articles/2005/6619_tsunami_impact_Sri_Lanka/default.asp?RegistrationID=guest.

increasing their vulnerability to trafficking and other worst forms of child labor.³⁸⁷¹ The government, NGOs and international organizations have provided a number of services to assist affected children, but there continues to be a shortage of schools and economic opportunities for families.³⁸⁷²

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum age for employment in most occupations at 14 years. The minimum age for employment at sea is 15 years.³⁸⁷³ The law prohibits all children under 18 to be employed in any hazardous occupation.³⁸⁷⁴ Children under 14 may be employed in family-run agricultural enterprises or as part of technical training activities. However children under 14 may not be employed during school hours; for more than 2 hours on a school day or Sunday; between the hours 8 p.m. and 6 a.m.; or in any activities that jeopardize health or education. The law limits the work hours of children 14 to 15 years to 9 per day, and the work hours of children 16 to 17 years to 10 per day.³⁸⁷⁵ The law prohibits young people under 18 from working in industrial facilities after 11 p.m., except in certain training or apprenticeship situations.³⁸⁷⁶ The law also requires medical certification of children less than 16 years prior to employment in industries.³⁸⁷⁷ The maximum penalty for child labor violations is 12 months of imprisonment.³⁸⁷⁸

The law prohibits forced labor, debt bondage, and all forms of slavery by persons of any age. The maximum fine for violating the law pertaining children is 30 years of imprisonment.³⁸⁷⁹

See also Education Guardian, *Sri Lankan Children 'Missing Out' on Education*, [online] December 22, 2005 [cited January 20, 2006]; available from

<http://education.guardian.co.uk/schoolsworldwide/story/0,14062,1672987,00.html?gusrc=rss>.

³⁸⁷¹ ILO-IPEC, *Emergency Response to Child Labour in Selected Tsunami Affected Areas, project document*, 5, 6, 36. See also UNICEF, *Caring for children growing up alone after the tsunami*, [online] March 1, 2005 [cited March 30, 2007]; available from http://www.unicef.org/infobycountry/24615_25298.html.

³⁸⁷² UNICEF, *Children and the Tsunami, A Year On*, November 2005; available from <http://www.unicef.org/emerg/disasterinasia/files/WhatWorked.pdf#search=%22children%20and%20the%20tsunami%20a%20year%20on%22>. See also ILO-IPEC, *Emergency Response to Child Labour in Selected Tsunami Affected Areas in Sri Lanka*, Geneva, March 30, 2006, 5.

³⁸⁷³ Government of Sri Lanka, *Employment of Women, Young Persons, and Children Act of 1956*, Part III, Articles 13 and 34 (1). See also Government of Sri Lanka, *Shop and Office Employees Act of 1954*, No. 19 Article 10 (1). See also U.S. Embassy- Colombo, *reporting*, August 18, 2003.

³⁸⁷⁴ Government of Sri Lanka, *Employment of Women, Young Persons, and Children (Amendment)*, 2006 Act. No. 24, (August 21, 2006).

³⁸⁷⁵ *Employment of Women, Young Persons, and Children Act Nos. 47 of 1956 and 43 of 1964*, (November 7,), Section 13, 14. See also U.S. Embassy- Colombo, *reporting*, August 18, 2003.

³⁸⁷⁶ Government of Sri Lanka, *Employment of Women, Young Persons, and Children Act of 1956*, Section 2, 3(3), 4(1).

³⁸⁷⁷ U.S. Embassy- Colombo, *reporting*, August 18, 2003.

³⁸⁷⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Sri Lanka," Section 6d.

³⁸⁷⁹ Government of Sri Lanka, *Penal Code (Amendment)*, 2006, Act No. 16, 358(a). See also ILO-IPEC, *Combating Child Trafficking for Labor and Sexual Exploitation (TICSA Phase II)*, March 30, 2006, 4. See also Government of Sri Lanka, *Report of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka on Efforts by GSP Beneficiary Countries to Eliminate Worst Forms of Child Labour*, submitted in response to U.S. Department of Labor Federal Register Notice (July 25, 2005) "Request for Information on Efforts by Certain Countries to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor", Colombo, August 19, 2005, 1.

The 2006 Penal Code Amendment Act strengthened provisions against trafficking.³⁸⁸⁰ The law also prohibits sexual violations against children, defined as persons under 18 years, particularly with regard to child pornography, child prostitution, and the trafficking of children. Penalties for violations related pornography and prostitution range from 2 to 5 years of imprisonment.³⁸⁸¹ Trafficking of children is punishable by imprisonment of 3 to 20 years.³⁸⁸²

The 2006 Penal Code Amendment Act criminalizes the act of engaging or recruiting a child for use in armed conflict.³⁸⁸³ The minimum age for recruitment into the armed forces is 18 years.³⁸⁸⁴ The law also protects children affected by tsunami.³⁸⁸⁵

In August 2006, parliament passed legislation empowering the Minister of Labor Relations and Foreign Employment to publish regulations prohibiting the employment of children under 18 in hazardous occupations. Forty-nine hazardous occupations have been identified.³⁸⁸⁶

The Department of Labor and the Department of Probation and Child Care Services enforce child labor laws, often in collaboration with the police.³⁸⁸⁷ In the first half of 2006, the Department of Labor received 60 complaints of child labor violations.³⁸⁸⁸ Most child labor offenses are prosecuted by the police, under the Penal Code.³⁸⁸⁹ In 2006, the Government created the new Ministry of Child Development. The National Child Protection Authority (NCPA), which was previously an independent authority, is now under the new ministry.³⁸⁹⁰ NCPA is the primary oversight agency for the protection of children, and its anti-trafficking unit coordinates governmental anti-trafficking activities. NCPA works with 450 social welfare officers at the community level and has established 11 district child protection committees to further raise awareness of child abuse issues, including child labor.³⁸⁹¹ The NCPA's Cyber

³⁸⁸⁰ Government of Sri Lanka, *Penal Code (Amendment), 2006*, Section 360. See also Government of Sri Lanka, *Report of Sri Lanka on Efforts to Eliminate Worst Forms of Child Labour*, 1.

³⁸⁸¹ Government of Sri Lanka, *Penal Code (Amendment), 1995*, Act No. 22, Articles 286A (1) and (2), 360A, and 360B. See also Government of Sri Lanka, *Penal Code (Amendment), 1998*, Act No. 29, Articles 288A(1) and (2), and 360A (1) and (2). See also Government of Sri Lanka, *Penal Code (Amendment), 2006*, Articles 268, 358, 360.

³⁸⁸² Government of Sri Lanka, *Penal Code (Amendment), 2006*, 360(2).

³⁸⁸³ *Ibid.* See also ILO-IPEC, *Combating Child Trafficking for Labor and Sexual Exploitation (TICSA Phase II)*, technical progress report March 2006, 4.

³⁸⁸⁴ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Child Soldiers Global Report 2004."

³⁸⁸⁵ ILO- IPEC, *Combating Child Trafficking for Labor and Sexual Exploitation (TICSA Phase II)*, technical progress report, Geneva, September 12, 2005, 3.

³⁸⁸⁶ U.S. Embassy - Colombo, *reporting, December 14, 2006*, 2. See also ILO- IPEC, *Emergency Response to Child Labour in Selected Tsunami Affected Areas in Sri Lanka*, technical progress report, Geneva, September 30, 2006, 2. See also ILO Committee of Experts, *Direct Request, Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182), Sri Lanka (ratification: 2001)*, 2004; available from <http://webfusion.ilo.org/public/db/standards/normes/appl/index.cfm?lang=EN>.

³⁸⁸⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Sri Lanka," Section 6d. See also Government of Sri Lanka, *Report of Sri Lanka on Efforts to Eliminate Worst Forms of Child Labour*, 6.

³⁸⁸⁸ U.S. Embassy - Colombo, *reporting, December 14, 2006*, 4.

³⁸⁸⁹ Government of Sri Lanka, *Report of Sri Lanka on Efforts to Eliminate Worst Forms of Child Labour*, 6.

³⁸⁹⁰ U.S. Embassy - Colombo, *reporting, December 14, 2006*, 6.

³⁸⁹¹ Government of Sri Lanka, *National Child Protection Authority Act of 1998*, No. 50. See also ILO, *National Legislation and Policies Against Child Labour in Sri Lanka*, [online] March 21, 2005 [cited October 10, 2006]; available from <http://www.ilo.org/public/english/region/asro/newdelhi/ipec/responses/srilanka/national.htm>. See also U.S. Embassy - Colombo, *reporting*, August 23, 2004.

Watch unit monitors the Internet for advertisements soliciting children for child pornography and pedophilia in Sri Lanka.³⁸⁹²

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The government has integrated its Policy and Plan of Action to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor into the National Plan of Action for Children (NPCA) 2004-2008. The Ministry of Labor Relations and Foreign Employment has committed a budget to implement the child labor components of the plan, which included strengthening child labor laws and enforcement; improving the availability of child labor data; increasing vocational training programs for out-of-school youth; sensitizing the public to child labor issues; and reducing domestic child labor by 30 percent each year.³⁸⁹³ The 2006 Plan of Action for Decent Work also commits the government to eliminating child labor.³⁸⁹⁴

The government and the LTTE have agreed to a 3-year Joint Plan for Children Affected by War to end child recruitment and to demobilize and rehabilitate ex-child soldiers. The plan was initiated in 2003 and is scheduled to go through 2007.³⁸⁹⁵ However, there are reports that the Action Plan is stalled as the LTTE continued to recruit child soldiers.³⁸⁹⁶

The government is implementing a National Plan of Action to combat trafficking of children for sexual and labor exploitation, under the purview of the NPCA.³⁸⁹⁷ The NPCA and other government agencies, with support from international organizations, have various mechanisms in place to care for child trafficking victims, such as rehabilitation camps and other shelters that provide medical care, and counseling services. The government has also committed funding for its anti-Human Smuggling and Investigation Bureau to combat trafficking. The government assists Sri Lankan trafficking victims abroad through its diplomatic missions.³⁸⁹⁸ The Ministry of Labor Relations and Foreign Employment trains labor inspectors, probation officers and police officers on child labor issues. Training includes trauma and psychosocial counseling, surveillance, legal awareness, as well as training of

³⁸⁹² U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Sri Lanka," Section 5.

³⁸⁹³ B. Abeygunawardana, Director General, and National Planning Department, *National Plan of Action for the Children of Sri Lanka, 2004-2008*, Government of Sri Lanka Ministry of Finance and Planning, Colombo, 2004, 122-123; available from http://www.humanitarianinfo.org/srilanka/docs/National_Plan.pdf. See also ILO-IPEC, *Combating Child Trafficking for Labor and Sexual Exploitation (TICSA Phase II)*, technical progress report, Geneva, September 12, 2005, 3.

³⁸⁹⁴ ILO - IPEC, *Emergency response to child labour in selected Tsunami affected areas in Sri Lanka*, Geneva, September 30, 2006.

³⁸⁹⁵ U.S. Embassy- Colombo, *reporting, August 23, 2004*. See also UNICEF Press Center, *Call to Increased Action for Sri Lanka's War Affected Children*, press release, January 22, 2004; available from http://www.unicef.org/media/media_19036.html.

³⁸⁹⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Sri Lanka," Section 5.

³⁸⁹⁷ *Ibid.* See also ILO-IPEC, *Child Labour and Responses*, 3.

³⁸⁹⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Sri Lanka." See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Sri Lanka," Section 5.

trainers on these issues.³⁸⁹⁹ With support from UNICEF, the Sri Lanka Tourist Board is implementing a 2-year campaign to stop the commercial exploitation of children.³⁹⁰⁰

The government has participated, and is currently participating in, several ILO-IPEC projects to combat child labor in Sri Lanka. These include a USD 3 million project funded by USDOL to combat child trafficking in Asia that ended in March 2006. The project withdrew 367 children and prevented 10,378 children from trafficking throughout the region.³⁹⁰¹ It also includes a global USD 7 million child soldier project funded by USDOL that targets 5,264 children for withdrawal and 4,250 for prevention from serving in armed groups in seven countries, including Sri Lanka.³⁹⁰² The Netherlands and NORAD supported child labor projects, which ended in 2006, and UNICEF is supporting two projects to assist children affected by war, which end in June and December 2007.³⁹⁰³ In addition, with USDOL funding, ILO-IPEC and the Sri Lankan government initiated a USD 562,000 project after the tsunami that will continue through 2008. The project aims to strengthen the capacity of government, media, and international organizations to integrate child labor issues into post-tsunami reconstruction policies; monitor the child labor situation in the post-tsunami environment; and provide educational and psychosocial services to tsunami-affected families in Galle and Trincomalee. The project targets 300 children for withdrawal and 2,100 children for prevention from exploitive work.³⁹⁰⁴

The Ministry of Education initiated a program to improve education for the children of plantation workers, who are considered especially vulnerable to child labor. The program has strengthened formal schools in plantation areas; recruited teachers to work on plantations; provided special education classes to children with learning disabilities; and provided vocational training to dropouts.³⁹⁰⁵

³⁸⁹⁹ U.S. Embassy- Colombo, *reporting*, September 7, 2005. See also U.S. Embassy- Colombo, *reporting*, August 23, 2004.

³⁹⁰⁰ UNICEF, *Zero Tolerance for Child Sex Tourism in Sri Lanka*, [online] June 18, 2006 [cited September 26, 2006]; available from http://www.unicef.org/media/media_34596.html. See also UNICEF, *Sri Lanka Campaign Promotes "Zero Tolerance" for Child Sex Tourism*, [online] July 13, 2006 [cited September 26, 2006]; available from http://www.unicef.org/infobycountry/sri_lanka_34933.html.

³⁹⁰¹ ILO-IPEC, *Combating Child Trafficking for Labor and Sexual Exploitation (TICSA Phase II)*, project document, Geneva, September 30, 2002, 1.

³⁹⁰² U.S. Department of Labor, *Prevention and Reintegration of Children Involved in Armed Conflict: An Inter-Regional Program*, ILAB Technical Cooperation Summary, Washington, DC, 2003.

³⁹⁰³ ILO-IPEC official, E-mail communication USDOL official, March 1, 2007.

³⁹⁰⁴ ILO-IPEC, *Emergency Response to Child Labour in Selected Tsunami Affected Areas*, project document, 15, 38.

³⁹⁰⁵ U.S. Embassy- Colombo, *reporting*, September 7, 2005. See also ILO - IPEC, *Emergency response to child labour, technical progress report September 2006*, 2.

Suriname

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

According to an ILO survey, children in Suriname work in agriculture, mining, fishing, timber production, domestic service, construction, the furniture industry, and as street vendors, rice and lumber mill workers, and shop assistants.³⁹¹⁴ A large proportion of working children work more than 5 hours per day without adult supervision.³⁹¹⁵ Informal sector child labor also occurs in such areas as Nickerie and Saramacca.³⁹¹⁶ Children are victims of commercial sexual exploitation in Suriname, especially

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 2002:	Unavailable
Minimum age for admission to work:	14 ³⁹⁰⁶
Age to which education is compulsory:	12 ³⁹⁰⁷
Free public education:	Yes ^{3908*}
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2003:	120% ³⁹⁰⁹
Net primary enrollment rate in 2003:	92% ³⁹¹⁰
Percent of children 5-14 attending school:	Unavailable
Percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	Unavailable
Ratified Convention 138:	No ³⁹¹¹
Ratified Convention 182:	4/12/2006 ³⁹¹²
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Yes, associated ³⁹¹³
* Must pay for school supplies and related items.	

³⁹⁰⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Suriname," in *Country Report on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 6d; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78906.htm>.

³⁹⁰⁷ Ibid., Section 5. See also U.S. Embassy- Paramaribo, *reporting*, December 21, 2006.

³⁹⁰⁸ *Constitution of Suriname 1987, with 1992 Reforms*, Article 39; available from <http://www.georgetown.edu/pdba/Constitutions/Suriname/english.html>. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Suriname," Section 5.

³⁹⁰⁹ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

³⁹¹⁰ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Rate. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

³⁹¹¹ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, accessed October 18, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/cgi-lex/ratice.pl?Suriname>.

³⁹¹² ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, [cited October 18, 2006]; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/cgi-lex/ratice.pl?El+Salvador>.

³⁹¹³ ILO, *IPEC Action Against Child Labor- Highlights 2006*, [online] February, 2007 [cited March 29 2007], 29; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ippec/prod/eng/20070228_Implementationreport_en_Web.pdf.

³⁹¹⁴ Marten Schalkwijk and Wim van den Berg, *Suriname- The Situation of Children in Mining, Agriculture, and other Worst Forms of Child Labour: A Rapid Assessment*, ILO Subregional Office for the Caribbean, Port-of-Spain, November 2002, 30, 46, 52; available from http://www.ilocarib.org.tt/system_links/link6tst.html. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Suriname," Section 6d. Also see U.S. Embassy- Paramaribo, *reporting*, December 21, 2006.

³⁹¹⁵ Schalkwijk and van den Berg, *Suriname- The Situation of Children*, 49.

³⁹¹⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Suriname."

in gold mining areas in the interior.³⁹¹⁷ Boys in particular are being targeted by the sex tourism industry.³⁹¹⁸ Children are reported to be trafficked internally for sexual exploitation.³⁹¹⁹

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum age for employment at 14 years, although children from 12 to 14 years may work in family or special vocational settings if the work is not too physically or mentally demanding, or hazardous.³⁹²⁰ Children under 15 years are prohibited from working on fishing boats.³⁹²¹ Children under 18 years are prohibited from night work and hazardous work, defined as work dangerous to their life, health, and decency.³⁹²² The Minister of Labor is authorized to determine what constitutes hazardous work. Employers are required to maintain a Register of Young Persons.³⁹²³ The minimum age for work is inconsistent with the age to which schooling is compulsory (12).³⁹²⁴ This inconsistency may result in children being employed illegally. Employing a child under 14 is punishable by fines and up to 12 months in prison.³⁹²⁵ Parents who permit their children to work, in violation of child labor laws, may be prosecuted.³⁹²⁶

The law prohibits forced labor, slavery, and practices similar to slavery.³⁹²⁷ The penalty for trafficking of children under age 16 was increased in 2006 to a minimum of 10 years imprisonment.³⁹²⁸ Sexual offenses against girls under 12 years of age are punishable with 12 years imprisonment and with 8 years imprisonment for the same offense against girls ages 12 to 14.³⁹²⁹ Procurement of a minor for illicit sexual purposes is prohibited and is punished by up to 3 years imprisonment. The penalty is increased when the perpetrator makes a living by committing the offense or when the perpetrator is the parent, guardian, or employer of the minor.³⁹³⁰ The law also prohibits brothel operation.³⁹³¹

³⁹¹⁷ Ibid., Section 5. See also ECPAT International CSEC Database, *Suriname*, accessed September 13, 2006; available from <http://www.ecpat.net>.

³⁹¹⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Suriname," Section 5.

³⁹¹⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Suriname (Tier 2)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/65990.htm>.

³⁹²⁰ Clive Pegus, *A Review of Child Labour Laws of Suriname - a Guide to Legislative Reform*, ILO Subregional Office for the Caribbean, June 2005, 25. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Suriname," Section 5.

³⁹²¹ Clive Pegus, *A Review of Child Labour Laws of Suriname*, 25.

³⁹²² U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Suriname," Section 6d.

³⁹²³ Clive Pegus, *A Review of Child Labour Laws of Suriname*, 27.

³⁹²⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Suriname," Section 5.

³⁹²⁵ U.S. Embassy- Paramaribo, *reporting*, August 27 2004.

³⁹²⁶ Ibid.

³⁹²⁷ *Constitution of Suriname*, Article 15. See also Clive Pegus, *A Review of Child Labour Laws of Suriname*, 29.

³⁹²⁸ Government of Suriname, *Written Replies by the Government of the Suriname Concerning the List of Issues Received by the Committee on the Rights of the Child Relating to the Consideration of the Second Periodic Report of Suriname*, CRC/C/SUR/Q/2/Add.1, November 29, 2006, 31; available from <http://daccessdds.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/G06/458/35/PDF/G0645835.pdf?OpenElement>. See also Clive Pegus, *A Review of Child Labour Laws of Suriname*, 29.

³⁹²⁹ Clive Pegus, *A Review of Child Labour Laws of Suriname*, 29. See also UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Committee on the Rights of the Child: Consideration of Reports Submitted by Suriname*, CRC/C/SUR/2, prepared by Government of Suriname, November 24, 2005, 19.

³⁹³⁰ Protection Project, *2005 Human Rights Report on Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children*, [online]; available from <http://www.protectionproject.org/>.

The Ministry of Labor's Department of Labor Inspections enforces laws relating to the minimum age for employment and hazardous work through its 40 inspectors in the formal sector.³⁹³² Police officers are responsible for enforcing child labor laws in the informal sector.³⁹³³ According to the U.S. Department of State, the Ministry of Labor and the police sporadically enforce child labor laws.³⁹³⁴ No investigations of exploitive child labor cases were done in rural areas during 2006.³⁹³⁵ Laws concerning worst forms of child labor are considered crimes and, as such, are enforced by the Ministry of Justice and Police, in conjunction with the Youth Police Department.³⁹³⁶ The Youth Police are authorized to remove children from the worst forms of child labor and prosecute offenders.³⁹³⁷ Although the U.S. Department of State reports that the country's law against brothels is not enforced, a special police anti-trafficking unit has conducted limited investigations and raids, including random checks of brothels, to ensure that minors are not working on those premises.³⁹³⁸

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

In late 2006, the Government of Suriname established a National Commission on Child Labor, consisting of representatives from various ministries, labor unions, the private sector, and NGOs.³⁹³⁹ The Commission is tasked to guide the government on the issue of child labor, review labor legislation, make recommendations, and develop a list of worst forms of child labor.³⁹⁴⁰ The Government continues to participate in ILO-IPEC's initiatives to address child domestic labor, commercial sexual exploitation, and child labor in agriculture.³⁹⁴¹

According to the U.S. Department of State, the Ministries of Labor and Social Affairs refer to reducing child labor in their annual policy documents. Also, Suriname government officials often emphasized the importance of reducing this problem.³⁹⁴²

³⁹³¹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Suriname," Section 5.

³⁹³² Ibid., Section 6d. See also Clive Pegus, *A Review of Child Labour Laws of Suriname*, 33. See also U.S. Embassy-Paramaribo, *reporting*, December 21, 2006.

³⁹³³ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Suriname," Section 6d.

³⁹³⁴ Ibid.

³⁹³⁵ Ibid.

³⁹³⁶ Clive Pegus, *A Review of Child Labour Laws of Suriname*, 33.

³⁹³⁷ Ibid.

³⁹³⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Suriname."

³⁹³⁹ U.S. Embassy- Paramaribo, *reporting*, December 21, 2006.

³⁹⁴⁰ Ibid.

³⁹⁴¹ ILO-IPEC, *¿Dónde Trabaja IPEC?*, [online] 2005 [cited October 22, 2006]; available from <http://www.oit.org.pe/ippec/pagina.php?seccion=27&pagina=164>. See also ILO-IPEC official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, November 16, 2006.

³⁹⁴² U.S. Embassy- Paramaribo, *reporting*, December 21, 2006.

Swaziland

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Children in Swaziland work in agriculture (particularly in the eastern region), and as domestic workers and herders.³⁹⁵⁴ Children are also found working on the streets as traders, hawkers, bus and taxi conductors, load bearers, and car washers.³⁹⁵⁵ There are reports that Swazi and Mozambican girls are engaged in commercial

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working:	9.6% ³⁹⁴³
Minimum age for admission to work:	No ³⁹⁴⁴
Age to which education is compulsory:	12 ³⁹⁴⁵
Free public education:	No ³⁹⁴⁶
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2002:	98% ³⁹⁴⁷
Net primary enrollment rate in 2002:	75% ³⁹⁴⁸
Percent of children 5-14 attending school:	74.3% ³⁹⁴⁹
As of 2002, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	77% ³⁹⁵⁰
Ratified Convention 138:	10/23/2002 ³⁹⁵¹
Ratified Convention 182:	10/23/2002 ³⁹⁵²
ILO-IPEC participating country:	No ³⁹⁵³

³⁹⁴³ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, October 7, 2005.

³⁹⁴⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Swaziland," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006* Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 6d; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78760.htm>.

³⁹⁴⁵ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Ending Age of Compulsory Education*, accessed February 9, 2007; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/TableViewer/tableView.aspx>.

³⁹⁴⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Swaziland," Section 5.

³⁹⁴⁷ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total* accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

³⁹⁴⁸ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total* accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

³⁹⁴⁹ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Survival Rate to Grade 5. Total* accessed December 18, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

³⁹⁵⁰ Ibid.

³⁹⁵¹ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, [cited September 25, 2006]; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/docs/declAFpr.htm>.

³⁹⁵² Ibid.

³⁹⁵³ ILO-IPEC, *IPEC Action Against Child Labour-Highlights 2006*, Geneva, October, 2006; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ipcc/prod/eng/20061019_Implementationreport_eng_Web.pdf.

³⁹⁵⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Swaziland," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2005* Washington, DC, March 8, 2006, Section 6d; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2005/61595.htm>.

³⁹⁵⁵ ILO-IPEC, *Supporting the Timebound Programme to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour in South Africa's Child Labour Action Programme and Laying the Basis for Concerted Action Against Worst Forms of Child Labour in Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia and Swaziland*, project document, Geneva, September 30, 2003, Annex II, 22-23.

sexual exploitation in Swaziland and are trafficked to South Africa for domestic labor and forced prostitution.³⁹⁵⁶

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law provides children with the right to be protected from work that jeopardizes their health, education, or development.³⁹⁵⁷ The law distinguishes between a “child” (under 15 years) and a “young person” (between 15 and 17), but does not establish a blanket minimum age of employment.³⁹⁵⁸ Children under 15 are only allowed to work in firms where family members are employed or in technical schools under supervision.³⁹⁵⁹ The law prohibits children and young persons under 18 years from working in mines, quarries or underground, in premises that sell alcohol for consumption on site, or in any sector that is dangerous to their safety, health, or moral development.³⁹⁶⁰ The law also prohibits children from working during school hours and for more than 4 hours continuously.³⁹⁶¹ Children may not work between 6 p.m. and 7 a.m., except for an apprenticeship or vocational training approved by the Minister of Labor.³⁹⁶² Children are limited to 6 hours of work per day and 33 hours per week.³⁹⁶³ The Ministry of Labor is responsible for enforcing child labor laws, but its effectiveness is limited by shortages of personnel to conduct regular inspections, according to the U.S. Department of State.³⁹⁶⁴

Children are protected by law from commercial sexual exploitation³⁹⁶⁵ and child pornography.³⁹⁶⁶ Forced and bonded labor, including by children, is also prohibited.³⁹⁶⁷ There is no law prohibiting trafficking in persons.³⁹⁶⁸ Children under the age 18 are prohibited from enlisting in the military.³⁹⁶⁹

³⁹⁵⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Swaziland," Section 5. See also The Protection Project, "Swaziland," in *Human Rights Report on the Trafficking of Persons, Especially Women and Children: A Country-by-Country Report on a Contemporary Form of Slavery*, 2005; available from <http://www.protectionproject.org>.

³⁹⁵⁷ U.S. Embassy- Mbabane, *reporting*, December 18, 2006, para A.

³⁹⁵⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Swaziland," Section 6d.

³⁹⁵⁹ *Ibid.* See also Dawie Bosch Nomthetho Simelane, and Debbie Budlender, *Scoping Report on Child Labour in Swaziland*, Geneva, August, 2003, 9.

³⁹⁶⁰ Nomthetho Simelane, *Scoping Report Swaziland*, 9. See also ILO-IPEC., *Supporting the Timebound Programme to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour in South Africa's Child Labour Action Programme and Laying the Basis for Concerted Action Against Worst Forms of Child Labour in Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia and Swaziland*, project document, Geneva, September 30, 2003, Annex 2, 21. See also Government of Swaziland, *King and Parliament of Swaziland; The Employment Act, 1980*; available from [http://www.doingbusiness.org/Documents/LawLibrary/Swaziland-Employment-Act-1980-\(Excerpts\).pdf](http://www.doingbusiness.org/Documents/LawLibrary/Swaziland-Employment-Act-1980-(Excerpts).pdf).

³⁹⁶¹ ILO-IPEC, *Supporting the Timebound Programme Annex II*, 21.

³⁹⁶² Government of Swaziland, *Employment Act 1980*, Para 98 (1).

³⁹⁶³ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Swaziland," Section 6d.

³⁹⁶⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2005: Swaziland," Section 6d.

³⁹⁶⁵ Nomthetho Simelane, *Scoping Report Swaziland*, 11.

³⁹⁶⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Swaziland," Section 5.

³⁹⁶⁷ *Ibid.*, Section 6c.

³⁹⁶⁸ *Ibid.*

³⁹⁶⁹ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, London, March 2004, 102; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=966.

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Government of Swaziland is working with ILO-IPEC to implement a USDOL-funded regional child labor project in Southern Africa. This USD 5 million project aims to expand the knowledge base on exploitive child labor in Swaziland and facilitate the development of a national child labor action plan.³⁹⁷⁰ The American Institutes for Research, with the support of the Government of Swaziland and Save the Children Swaziland, is implementing another regional, USDOL-funded project. This USD 9 million project is designed to improve the quality of and access to basic and vocational education for children working or at-risk of working in the worst forms of child labor.³⁹⁷¹ Over its lifetime, this project aims to prevent 10,000 children in five countries, including Swaziland, from engaging in exploitive labor.³⁹⁷²

³⁹⁷⁰ ILO-IPEC, *Supporting the Timebound Programme* 10. See also ILO-IPEC, *Annexure to TECL Project Document: Strategy for Swaziland* project document country annex, Geneva, May 2005.

³⁹⁷¹ American Institutes for Research, *Reducing Exploitive Child Labor Southern Africa (RECLISA)*, project document, Washington September 8, 2005, 2.

³⁹⁷² *Ibid.*, 22.

Tanzania

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2001, approximately 36.2 percent of boys and 34.5 percent of girls ages 5 to 14 were working in Tanzania. The majority of working children were found in the agricultural sector (77.4 percent), followed by services (22.4 percent), manufacturing (0.1 percent), and other sectors (0.1 percent).³⁹⁸⁴ In rural areas, child labor is particularly prevalent.³⁹⁸⁵

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 2001:	35.4% ³⁹⁷³
Minimum age for work:	15 ³⁹⁷⁴
Age to which education is compulsory:	15 ³⁹⁷⁵
Free public education:	Yes ^{3976*}
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2005:	106% ³⁹⁷⁷
Net primary enrollment rate in 2005:	91% ³⁹⁷⁸
Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 2000:	57% ³⁹⁷⁹
As of 2004, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	76% ³⁹⁸⁰
Ratified Convention 138:	12/16/1998 ³⁹⁸¹
Ratified Convention 182:	9/12/2001 ³⁹⁸²
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Yes ³⁹⁸³
*Must pay for school supplies and related items.	

³⁹⁷³ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, March 1, 2007.

³⁹⁷⁴ The Law Reform Commission of Tanzania, *Report of the Commission on the Law Relating to Children in Tanzania*, 131-132. See also Tanzanian Ministry of Labour, Youth Development, and Sports official, Information on Efforts by Tanzania to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour Written communication to USDOL official, October 4, 2002.

³⁹⁷⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Tanzania," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78761.htm>.

³⁹⁷⁶ Ibid.

³⁹⁷⁷ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

³⁹⁷⁸ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Rate. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

³⁹⁷⁹ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

³⁹⁸⁰ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Survival Rate to Grade 5. Total*, accessed December 18, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

³⁹⁸¹ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, accessed October 8, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/newratframeE.htm>.

³⁹⁸² Ibid.

³⁹⁸³ ILO, *IPEC Action Against Child Labour: Highlights 2006*, Geneva, October 2006, 30; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ipcc/prod/eng/20070228_Implementationreport_en_Web.pdf.

³⁹⁸⁴ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

³⁹⁸⁵ ILO-IPEC, *Supporting the Timebound Program on the Worst Forms of Child Labor in Tanzania- Phase II*, project document, Geneva, September 2005, 3.

Children work on commercial tea,³⁹⁸⁶ coffee,³⁹⁸⁷ sugar cane, sisal, cloves,³⁹⁸⁸ and tobacco farms,³⁹⁸⁹ and in the production of wheat, corn, green algae, pyrethrum, and rubber.³⁹⁹⁰

Children also work in underground mines and in bars and restaurants close by. Children known as “snake boys” crawl through narrow tunnels in unregulated gemstone mines to help position mining equipment and explosives.³⁹⁹¹ In the informal sector, children engage in scavenging, fishing, fish processing, and quarrying.³⁹⁹² Other children work as street vendors, cart pushers, auto mechanics,³⁹⁹³ barmaids, car washers, and carpenters.³⁹⁹⁴ Children also work as domestic servants in third-party homes,³⁹⁹⁵ and some fall prey to exploitation in prostitution when fleeing abusive employers.³⁹⁹⁶

The United Republic of Tanzania comprises a union between mainland Tanzania and the neighboring island of Zanzibar.³⁹⁹⁷ On the island of Zanzibar, children work in fishing, in markets, and at hotels.³⁹⁹⁸ Zanzibari children also work in the tourism industry,³⁹⁹⁹ petty trading, clove picking, domestic service, and are involved in commercial sexual exploitation near tourist spots.⁴⁰⁰⁰

³⁹⁸⁶ M.J. Gonza and P. Moshi, *Tanzania: Children Working in Commercial Agriculture- Tea: A Rapid Assessment*, ILO-IPEC, Geneva, January 2002; available from

http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ipecc/prod/eng/2001_ra_11_tz_tea_en.pdf.

³⁹⁸⁷ George S. Nchahaga, *Tanzania: Children Working in Commercial Agriculture: A Rapid Assessment*, ILO-IPEC, Geneva, January 2002, 29-32; available from

<http://www.ilo.org/public/english/standards/ipecc/simpoc/tanzania/ra/coffee.pdf>.

³⁹⁸⁸ ILO-IPEC, *Tanzania: Focusing on the Worst Forms of Child Labour*, Dar es Salaam, 2001.

³⁹⁸⁹ A. Masudi, A. Ishumi, F. Mbeo, and W. Sambo, *Tanzania: Child Labour in Commercial Agriculture- Tobacco: A Rapid Assessment*, ILO-IPEC, Geneva, November 2001.

³⁹⁹⁰ U.S. Embassy- Dar es Salaam, *reporting*, December 15, 2006. See also U.S. Embassy- Dar es Salaam, *reporting*, October 23, 2002.

³⁹⁹¹ J.A. Mwami, A.J. Sanga, and J. Nyoni, *Tanzania: Children Labour in Mining: A Rapid Assessment*, ILO-IPEC, Geneva, January 2002, 37-39; available from

<http://www.ilo.org/public/english/standards/ipecc/simpoc/tanzania/ra/mining.pdf>. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Tanzania," Section 6d.

³⁹⁹² C. Kadonya, M. Madihi, and S. Mtwana, *Tanzania: Child Labour in the Informal Sector: A Rapid Assessment*, ILO-IPEC, Geneva, January 2002, 33-48; available from

<http://www.ilo.org/public/english/standards/ipecc/simpoc/tanzania/ra/infosec/pdf>.

³⁹⁹³ ILO-IPEC, *Baseline Study and Attitude Survey on Child Labour and Its Worst Forms- Tanzania*, Dar es Salaam, June 2003, 9- 10, 28, 33.

³⁹⁹⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Tanzania," Section 6d.

³⁹⁹⁵ Ibid. See also ILO-IPEC, *Baseline Study and Attitude Survey on Child Labour- Tanzania*, 10. See also Daniel Dickinson, "Tanzania 'Housegirls' Face Sexual Abuse", BBC News, [online], May 10, 2003 [cited February 16, 2007]; available from <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/africa/3015223.stm>. See also Bill Rau for ILO-IPEC, *Combating Child Labour and HIV/AIDS in Sub-Saharan Africa*, no. 1, Geneva, July 2002. See also ILO-IPEC, *Tanzania: Focusing on the Worst Forms of Child Labour*, 17. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Tanzania," Section 6d.

³⁹⁹⁶ U.S. Embassy- Dar es Salaam official, Email communication to USDOL official, August 9, 2007.

³⁹⁹⁷ ILO-IPEC, *Supporting the Timebound Program on the Worst Forms of Child Labor in Tanzania- Phase II, project document*, 1.

³⁹⁹⁸ U.S. Embassy- Dar es Salaam, *reporting*, December 15, 2006.

³⁹⁹⁹ ILO-IPEC, *Supporting the Timebound Program on the Worst Forms of Child Labor in Tanzania- Phase II, project document*, 3.

⁴⁰⁰⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Tanzania," Section 6d.

The exploitation of children in prostitution is a growing problem in Tanzania,⁴⁰⁰¹ where girls, and increasingly boys, are involved in commercial sexual exploitation.⁴⁰⁰² On Zanzibar, some girls accept jobs at hotels and then become engaged in prostitution.⁴⁰⁰³

In Tanzania, children are trafficked internally; boys are trafficked for exploitive labor in agriculture, mines, and the informal sector, and girls are trafficked from rural to urban areas for forced domestic service and commercial sexual exploitation.⁴⁰⁰⁴ A limited number of Tanzanian girls are reportedly trafficked for forced labor in domestic service to South Africa, Saudi Arabia, the United Kingdom, Oman, and possibly to other countries in Europe or the Middle East.⁴⁰⁰⁵ Children at especially high risk of being trafficked include girls, especially those who completed primary school but did not enroll in secondary school; orphaned children living in child-headed households; and children whose families live in poverty.⁴⁰⁰⁶

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

Tanzania's Employment and Labor Relations Act No.6 of 2004 and the Labor Institutions Act No.7 of 2004 took effect in 2006.⁴⁰⁰⁷ These laws now prohibit the employment of children under the age of 14 in mainland Tanzania, except for light work that is not likely to harm the child's health and development and that does not prejudice the child's attendance at school.⁴⁰⁰⁸ The laws also prohibit children under the age of 18 from being employed in a mine, factory, ship, or other worksite that the Minister of Labor deems to be hazardous.⁴⁰⁰⁹

Zanzibar is governed by its own labor laws.⁴⁰¹⁰ In Zanzibar, the minimum age for employment is 18 years, with some exceptions, such as for children in rural areas over 10 years who are permitted to perform light work, including some agricultural activities and domestic work.⁴⁰¹¹ Zanzibari law provides for the following two categories of child labor offenses: (a) ordinary practices for child labor, and (b) worst forms of child labor. The penalty for category (a)

⁴⁰⁰¹ UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Consideration of Reports Submitted by States Parties Under Article 44 of the Convention, Concluding Observations: United Republic of Tanzania*, CRC/C/TZA/CO/2, June 21, 2006, Item 65; available from

[http://www.unhcr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/\(Symbol\)/2010f74fde85dce1c1257259002607a3?Opendocument](http://www.unhcr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/(Symbol)/2010f74fde85dce1c1257259002607a3?Opendocument).

⁴⁰⁰² U.S. Embassy- Dar es Salaam, *reporting*, August 18, 2003. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Tanzania," Section 6d.

⁴⁰⁰³ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Tanzania," Section 5.

⁴⁰⁰⁴ Ibid. See also U.S. Embassy- Dar es Salaam, *reporting*, February 28, 2007. See also U.S. Department of State, "Tanzania (Tier 2)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/65989.htm>. See also ILO-IPEC, *Baseline Study and Attitude Survey on Child Labour- Tanzania*, 24.

⁴⁰⁰⁵ U.S. Embassy- Dar es Salaam, *reporting*, February 28, 2007. See also U.S. Embassy- Dar es Salaam official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, August 13, 2006. See also U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Tanzania." See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Tanzania," Section 5.

⁴⁰⁰⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Tanzania," Section 5.

⁴⁰⁰⁷ U.S. Embassy- Dar es Salaam official, Email communication, August 10, 2007.

⁴⁰⁰⁸ U.S. Embassy- Dar es Salaam official, E-mail communication, August 13, 2006.

⁴⁰⁰⁹ Ibid.

⁴⁰¹⁰ U.S. Embassy- Dar es Salaam, *reporting*, December 15, 2006.

⁴⁰¹¹ Right to Education- At What Age?, *United Republic of Tanzania*, accessed February 16, 2007; available from <http://www.right-to-education.org/content/age/tanz.html>.

offenses is a fine or imprisonment for up to 6 months. For category (b) offenses, penalties include a fine, imprisonment for a minimum of 1 year, or both.⁴⁰¹²

The law provides for the protection of children from exploitation in the workplace, and prohibits forced or compulsory labor, including a specific prohibition on forced labor by children.⁴⁰¹³ Unlike the previous law, the new labor laws establish a criminal punishment for employers that use illegal child labor as well as forced labor. Violators can be penalized by a fine, 1 year of imprisonment, or both.⁴⁰¹⁴ Tanzanian law also prohibits the military recruitment of children under 18.⁴⁰¹⁵ It further prohibits the procuring of a child under 18 for indecent exhibition or for sexual intercourse, either inside or outside the country.⁴⁰¹⁶ Tanzanian law considers sexual intercourse with a child under 18 years to be rape (except in cases of marriage), punishable by imprisonment ranging from 30 years to life in cases where perpetrators are 19 years or older.⁴⁰¹⁷ Tanzania does not prohibit all forms of trafficking in persons. On the mainland, traffickers can be prosecuted under existing statutes criminalizing the sale of people, forced labor, child labor, and various sexual offenses. On Zanzibar, traffickers can be prosecuted under existing law that criminalizes kidnapping, abduction, and slavery.⁴⁰¹⁸

Although several government agencies have special child labor units and some jurisdiction over matters related to child labor, the primary responsibility for child labor law enforcement in mainland Tanzania lies with the Ministry of Labor, Employment, and Youth Development. In 2006, the government employed 124 national labor inspectors—a decrease from the 145 inspectors reported in the previous year.⁴⁰¹⁹ Enforcement of labor laws by the Ministry of Labor, Employment, and Youth Development remains weak, according to the U.S. Department of State, and is undermined by a lack of personnel and low salaries. At the community level, child labor committees identify and monitor children who engaged in exploitive child labor. The government took actions to address child labor during the year, such as ensuring children's attendance in school, penalizing parents who failed to enroll their children, and educating formal sector employers on child labor issues.⁴⁰²⁰

Zanzibar has its own Ministry of Labor, which is responsible for enforcing the island's child labor laws.⁴⁰²¹

The Inter-Ministerial Committee to Combat Human Trafficking serves as the coordinating mechanism for government ministries, NGOs, international organizations, and civil society

⁴⁰¹² U.S. Embassy- Dar es Salaam, *reporting*, December 15, 2006.

⁴⁰¹³ U.S. Embassy- Dar es Salaam official, E-mail communication, August 13, 2006. See also U.S. Embassy- Dar es Salaam, *reporting*, October 29, 2005.

⁴⁰¹⁴ U.S. Embassy- Dar es Salaam official, E-mail communication, August 13, 2006.

⁴⁰¹⁵ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Tanzania," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, London, 2004; available from <http://www.child-soldiers.org/resources/global-reports>.

⁴⁰¹⁶ Government of Tanzania, *Sexual Offences Special Provisions Act*, (July 1998), Sections 138 and 139; available from <http://www.unhcr.org/cgi-bin/texis/vtx/rsd/rsddocview.html?tbl=RSDLEGAL&id=3ae6b5098>.

⁴⁰¹⁷ *Ibid.*, Sections 130 and 131. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Tanzania," Section 5.

⁴⁰¹⁸ U.S. Embassy- Dar es Salaam official, Email communication, August 9, 2007.

⁴⁰¹⁹ U.S. Embassy- Dar es Salaam, *reporting*, December 15, 2006.

⁴⁰²⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Tanzania," Section 6d.

⁴⁰²¹ U.S. Embassy- Dar es Salaam, *reporting*, December 15, 2006.

partners. Several ministries of both the Mainland and Zanzibar government participate in the Inter-Ministerial Committee and in mid-2006, the Ministry of Public Safety and Security established an anti-trafficking section in the Criminal Investigation Department.⁴⁰²²

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

Tanzania's National Strategy for Growth and Reduction of Poverty (NSGRP) 2005-2010 includes specific references to the elimination of the worst forms of child labor. The NSGRP commits the government to reducing the percentage of children engaged in child labor to less than 10 percent by 2010, by providing former child laborers with a range of educational alternatives. It also aims to increase the rates of primary school enrollment, attendance, and completion for child laborers and other orphans and vulnerable children.⁴⁰²³

In 2006, the government continued its campaign to raise awareness on the worst forms of child labor, including prostitution and forced domestic service.⁴⁰²⁴ The Ministry of Labor's Child Labor Unit worked with ILO-IPEC to train to district officials and district child labor coordinators on the worst forms of child labor.⁴⁰²⁵

In 2006, USDOL awarded a 4-year, USD 5.09 million cooperative agreement to Winrock International for a Child Labor Education Initiative project in Tanzania, which aims to withdraw 4,975 children and prevent 5,100 children from exploitive child labor in agriculture through the provision of educational services. The government will be collaborating with Winrock International on this new project.⁴⁰²⁶ ILO-IPEC continued to work with the government to implement its Timebound Program (TBP). The first phase of ILO-IPEC's Project of Support to the Timebound Program on the Worst Forms of Child Labor in Tanzania ended in August 2006. This USD 5.4 million project funded by USDOL withdrew 16,314 children from and prevented 19,200 children from entering exploitive labor.⁴⁰²⁷ A USD 4.87 million, 4-year second phase of the TBP was funded by USDOL to continue efforts to eliminate the worst forms of child labor in commercial agriculture, domestic service, mining, fishing, and prostitution in mainland Tanzania by 2010. The second phase also includes activities to combat child labor on Zanzibar.⁴⁰²⁸ The government also collaborated, through April 2006, on a USD 4 million, USDOL-funded child labor and basic education project implemented by the

⁴⁰²² U.S. Embassy- Dar es Salaam, *reporting, February 28, 2007*. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Tanzania," Section 5. See also U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Tanzania." See also U.S. Embassy- Dar es Salaam official, Email communication, August 9, 2007.

⁴⁰²³ The United Republic of Tanzania, *National Strategy for Growth and Reduction of Poverty (NSGRP)*, Dar es Salaam, June 2005, 14, 27; available from [http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTPRS1/Resources/TanzaniaPRSP\(June-2005\).pdf](http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTPRS1/Resources/TanzaniaPRSP(June-2005).pdf). See also ILO-IPEC, *Supporting the Timebound Programme on the Worst Forms of Child Labour- Phase I*, technical progress report, September 2005.

⁴⁰²⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Tanzania," Section 5.

⁴⁰²⁵ U.S. Embassy- Dar es Salaam, *reporting, December 15, 2006*.

⁴⁰²⁶ U.S. Department of Labor, *Cooperative Agreement with Winrock International, Tanzanian African Women Leaders in Agriculture, and Khulisa Management Services*, Washington, DC, September 30, 2006.

⁴⁰²⁷ ILO-IPEC, *Supporting the Timebound Program on the Worst Forms of Child Labor in Tanzania- Phase I*, final technical progress report, Geneva, September 18, 2006.

⁴⁰²⁸ ILO-IPEC, *Tanzania: Focusing on the Worst Forms of Child Labour*, vii, 27. See also ILO-IPEC, *Supporting the Timebound Program on the Worst Forms of Child Labor in Tanzania- Phase II*, project document.

Education Development Center (EDC),⁴⁰²⁹ which prevented 1,166 children from exploitive child labor.⁴⁰³⁰ The Ministry of Education and Vocational Training agreed to continue operating the learning centers established by EDC and broadcasting the radio-based curriculum that served as the core of the project's efforts.⁴⁰³¹ The government also collaborated with ILO-IPEC on the implementation of several other child labor and education projects, including a USD 1.53 million project to provide skills and apprenticeship training to urban youth, funded by Canada; a USD 449,408 project to combat child domestic work in Tanzania and Kenya, funded by Sweden; and a USD 557,729 project to combat hazardous child labor in tobacco farming, funded by the Foundation for the Elimination of Child Labor in the Tobacco Industry.⁴⁰³²

In 2006, Tanzanian government officials referred victims of trafficking, including children, to NGOs to provide shelter, counseling, and rehabilitation. In support of the IOM's campaign to increase awareness of the dangers of trafficking, government officials appeared on television and radio programs and immigration officers distributed brochures at 25 border posts.⁴⁰³³ On Zanzibar, the government trained immigration officers and local administrators on trafficking.⁴⁰³⁴

⁴⁰²⁹ Education Development Center, *Supporting the Education Component of the Timebound Program on Eliminating Child Labor in Tanzania*, project document, Washington, DC, April 2002.

⁴⁰³⁰ Education Development Center, *Supporting the Education Component of the Timebound Program*, final technical progress report, June 2006, 16.

⁴⁰³¹ Ibid. See also U.S. Embassy- Dar es Salaam, *reporting, February 28, 2007*.

⁴⁰³² ILO-IPEC official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, November 16, 2006. See also ILO-IPEC, *Supporting the Timebound Program on the Worst Forms of Child Labor in Tanzania- Phase II, project document*, 65-66.

⁴⁰³³ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Tanzania," Section 5. See also U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Tanzania." See also U.S. Embassy- Dar es Salaam official, Email communication, August 9, 2007.

⁴⁰³⁴ U.S. Embassy- Dar es Salaam, *reporting, February 28, 2007*.

Thailand

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In rural areas of Thailand, children work primarily in agriculture, in sub-sectors such as rubber plantations, orange orchards, and sugarcane and vegetable production. In urban areas, children work in the service sector (small-scale industry, gas stations, entertainment venues, and restaurants). Children also work in street vending, and in the construction, manufacturing, knitting, garment, and fishing sectors.⁴⁰⁴² Large numbers of street children are present in urban centers.⁴⁰⁴³ Children also work in domestic service.⁴⁰⁴⁴ Children are vulnerable to exploitation in the trafficking of drugs

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working:	Unavailable
Minimum age for admission to work:	15 ⁴⁰³⁵
Age to which education is compulsory:	16 ⁴⁰³⁶
Free public education:	Yes ⁴⁰³⁷
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2005:	97% ⁴⁰³⁸
Net primary enrollment rate:	Unavailable
Percent of children 5-14 attending school:	Unavailable
Percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	Unavailable
Ratified Convention 138:	5/11/2004 ⁴⁰³⁹
Ratified Convention 182:	8/16/2001 ⁴⁰⁴⁰
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Yes ⁴⁰⁴¹

⁴⁰³⁵ Kingdom of Thailand, *Labour Protection Act*, (1998), Chapter 4; available from <http://natlex.ilo.org/txt/E98THA01.htm>.

⁴⁰³⁶ *National Education Act*, B.E. 2542, Sections 10, 17.

⁴⁰³⁷ *Ibid.*

⁴⁰³⁸ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, March 1, 2007.

⁴⁰³⁹ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, [database online] [cited May 27, 2005]; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/newratframeE.htm>.

⁴⁰⁴⁰ *Ibid.*

⁴⁰⁴¹ ILO, *IPEC Action Against Child Labour: Highlights 2006*, Geneva, October 2006, 29; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ippec/prod/eng/20061018_Implementationreport_eng.pdf.

⁴⁰⁴² Surapone Ptanawanit and Saksri Boribanbanpotkate, *Assessing the Worst Forms of Child Labour in Selected Provinces of Thailand: Chiang Rai, Tak, Udon Thani, Songkla, and Pattani*, Bangkok, February 22, 2007, 13, 29, 31. See also U.S. Department of State, "Thailand," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006* Washington D.C., March 6, 2007, Section 6d; available from

<http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78792.htm>. See also Vichitra Phromphantum, *Study Report: The Worst Forms of Child Labor*, ILO-IPEC and Office of the Permanent Secretary for Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare, Bangkok, September 20, 2001, 17, 32. See also Federation of Trade Unions-Burma (FTUB) Migrants Section, *The Mekong Challenge: Working Day and Night, The Plight of Migrant Child Workers in Mae Sot, Thailand*, ILO, Bangkok, 2006, Executive Summary; available from <http://www.ilo.org/public/english/region/asro/bangkok/child/trafficking/downloads/workingdayandnight-english.pdf>.

⁴⁰⁴³ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports-2006: Thailand," Section 5. See also Ptanawanit and Boribanbanpotkate, *Assessing the Worst Forms of Child Labour in Selected Provinces of Thailand*, 13, 29, 31.

⁴⁰⁴⁴ Nawarat Phlainoi, *Thailand - Child Domestic Workers: A Rapid Assessment*, ILO-IPEC, Geneva, April 2002. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports-2006: Thailand," Section 6d. See also Ptanawanit and Boribanbanpotkate, *Assessing the Worst Forms of Child Labour in Selected Provinces of Thailand*, 13, 29, 31.

in Thailand,⁴⁰⁴⁵ and are exploited in prostitution and pornography.⁴⁰⁴⁶ Migrant children from neighboring countries are more likely to be exploited in the aforementioned worst forms of child labor than are Thai citizens.⁴⁰⁴⁷

Thailand is a source, transit, and destination country for trafficking in persons, including children, for both labor and commercial sexual exploitation. Trafficking is exacerbated by sex tourism.⁴⁰⁴⁸ Boys and girls are trafficked from Burma, Cambodia, China, Laos, and Vietnam for commercial sexual exploitation and begging.⁴⁰⁴⁹ Children are also trafficked into Thailand for forced servitude in agriculture, construction, factories, commercial fisheries, and private households, as well as for street begging.⁴⁰⁵⁰ Internal trafficking of children occurs and members of northern Thailand's stateless ethnic tribes are particularly vulnerable.⁴⁰⁵¹

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

On September 19, 2006, a non-violent coup d'état was carried out in Thailand, ousting the Prime Minister and suspending the Constitution. An interim constitution was issued for a

⁴⁰⁴⁵ Emma Porio and Christine Crisol, *The Use of Children in the Production, Sales and Trafficking of Drugs*, Manila, 2004, 2. See also Vittawan Sunthornkajit, Thankakorn Kaiyanunta, Pornvisid Varavarn, and Somrouy Varatechakongka, *Thailand - Child Labor in Illicit Drug Activities: A Rapid Assessment*, ILO-IPEC, Geneva, August 2002; available from <http://www.ilo.org/public/english/standards/ipecc/simpoc/thailand/ra/drugs.pdf>. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports-2006: Thailand," Section 6d.

⁴⁰⁴⁶ ECPAT International CSEC Database, *Thailand*, accessed September 22, 2006; available from http://www.ecpat.net/eng/Ecpat_inter/projects/monitoring/online_database/index.asp. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports-2006: Thailand," Section 5. See also ECPAT International, *Global Monitoring Report on the Status of Action Against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children*, Bangkok, 2006, 12; available from http://www.ecpat.net/eng/A4A_2005/PDF/EAP/Global_Monitoring_Report-THAILAND.pdf. See also U.S. Embassy-Bangkok, *reporting*, April 12, 2007.

⁴⁰⁴⁷ ILO IPEC, *Support for National Action to Combat Child Labor and its Worst Forms in Thailand*, project document, Geneva, September 30, 2006, 13-14. See also Kovit Buraphatanin, "Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour: A Case Study of Thailand" (paper presented at the Sub-regional Seminar on the Application of the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work and Its Follow-up: Elimination of Child Labor, Jakarta, July 12-14, 2006). See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports-2006: Thailand," Section 5, 6d.

⁴⁰⁴⁸ U.S. Embassy-Bangkok, *reporting*, March 12, 2007. See also U.S. Department of State, "Thailand (Tier 2)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, D.C., June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/>. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports-2006: Thailand," Section 5. See also ECPAT International, *Global Monitoring Report on the Status of Action Against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children*, 11-12.

⁴⁰⁴⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports-2006: Thailand," Section 5. See also Christina Wille, *Thailand - Lao People's Democratic Republic and Thailand - Myanmar Border Areas: Trafficking in Children into the Worst Forms of Child Labor: A Rapid Assessment*, ILO-IPEC, Geneva, November 2001; available from <http://www.ilo.org/public/english/standards/ipecc/simpoc/thailand/ra/border.pdf>. See also ECPAT International, *Global Monitoring Report on the Status of Action Against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children*, 12.

⁴⁰⁵⁰ U.S. Embassy-Bangkok, *reporting*, August 30, 2005. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports-2006: Thailand," Section 5.

⁴⁰⁵¹ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Thailand." See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports-2006: Thailand," Section 5. See also ECPAT International, *Global Monitoring Report on the Status of Action Against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children*, 12.

1 year while a replacement for the 1997 Constitution is drafted and democratic elections are held. The coup did not affect any existing laws pertaining to child labor or child protection.⁴⁰⁵²

The law sets the minimum age for employment at 15 years. Employers are required to notify labor inspectors if children under 18 are hired. The law permits children 15 to 18 to work only between 4 p.m. and 10 p.m. with written permission from the Director-General of Labor or a person assigned by the Director-General.⁴⁰⁵³ Children under 18 may not be employed in hazardous work, which includes any work involving metalwork, hazardous chemicals, poisonous materials, radiation, harmful temperatures or noise levels; exposure to toxic microorganisms; the operation of heavy equipment; work underground or underwater; work in places where alcohol is sold; in hotels; or work in massage parlors. The maximum penalty for violation of these prohibitions is 1 year of imprisonment.⁴⁰⁵⁴ These provisions do not apply to the agricultural and informal sectors (including domestic work). However, the Ministry of Labor has issued regulations to increase protections for child workers carrying out work in their homes and children working in agriculture.⁴⁰⁵⁵

The law guarantees the rights of all children “in Thailand” or “of all nationalities” to be protected by the State against violence and unfair treatment. Violations, such as forcing children to become beggars, to work in dangerous conditions, or to perform obscene acts, all carry penalties of 3 months imprisonment. The law also mandates the establishment of the National Child Protection Committee to provide guidance, oversight and issue regulations for matters of child protection.⁴⁰⁵⁶ The law prohibits forced labor except in cases of averting public calamity, war, martial law, or states of emergency.⁴⁰⁵⁷ The minimum voluntary age for military recruitment is 18, while the age for compulsory recruitment is 20.⁴⁰⁵⁸

The law prohibits all forms of prostitution and provides specific penalties for cases involving children under 18.⁴⁰⁵⁹ Fines and terms of imprisonment under the law are based on the age of

⁴⁰⁵² U.S. Department of State, *Background Notes: Thailand, November 2006*, [online] November 24, 2006 [cited February 1, 2007]; available from <http://bangkok.usembassy.gov/relation/bgnotes.htm>. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports-2006: Thailand," Introduction.

⁴⁰⁵³ *Labour Protection Act of 1998*, Chapter 4, Sections 44-45, 49-50.

⁴⁰⁵⁴ *Ibid.*, Sections 22, 49-50, 148.

⁴⁰⁵⁵ Royal Thai Embassy official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, November 8, 2005. See also ILO, *Minister Opens Discussions on Extending Protection to Millions of Informal Economy Workers*, [online] June 30, 2005 [cited October 4, 2006]; available from http://www.ilo.org/public/english/region/asro/bangkok/public/releases/yr2005/pr05_18.htm. See also U.S. Embassy- Bangkok, *reporting, August 30, 2005*. See also U.S. Embassy-Bangkok, *reporting, April 12, 2007*.

⁴⁰⁵⁶ Kingdom of Thailand, *Child Protection Act (2003)*, Articles 14, 26, 78. See also U.S. Embassy-Bangkok, *reporting, March 2, 2005*. ILO-IPEC, *Support for National Action to Combat Child Labor and its Worst Forms in Thailand*, project document, Geneva, September 30, 2006, 17.

⁴⁰⁵⁷ Kingdom of Thailand, *Constitution of the Kingdom of Thailand*, (1997). See also Kingdom of Thailand, *Prevention and Suppression of Prostitution Act B.E. 2539 (1996)*, Section 12; available from <http://natlex.ilo.org/txt/E96THA01.htm>. See also Kingdom of Thailand, *Penal Code Amendment Act, No. 14*, (1997).

⁴⁰⁵⁸ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Thailand," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, London, 2004; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=880.

⁴⁰⁵⁹ *Prevention and Suppression of Prostitution Act B.E. 2539 (1996)*; available from <http://natlex.ilo.org/txt/E96THA01.htm>. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports-2006: Thailand," Section 5.

the child involved, with more severe terms established for prostitution involving children age 15 and younger. For example, prostitution of children ages 16 to 18 is subject to jail terms of up to 15 years, while the range of penalties is nearly twice as much for those pimping and patronizing children 15 and under. The law also establishes that government officials who compel others to engage in commercial sexual exploitation face penalties of 15 to 20 years of imprisonment.⁴⁰⁶⁰

The law prohibits trafficking in persons, defines trafficking-related activities to be punished, and provides for basic protection of victims.⁴⁰⁶¹ Penalties for violations include imprisonment from 1 to 20 years depending on the age of the child and the specific nature of the violation.⁴⁰⁶² The law also provides protection for child victims while testifying in cases of sexual exploitation.⁴⁰⁶³

The Ministry of Labor is the primary agency responsible for enforcement of child labor laws and policies. The labor inspection system tends to be more reactive than proactive, with inspectors usually responding to public complaints or newspaper reports, according to the U.S. Department of State.⁴⁰⁶⁴ The U.S. Department of State also reports that a lack of resources is largely to blame for weak enforcement of child labor laws.⁴⁰⁶⁵ The National Thai Working Group to Combat the Trafficking of Women and Children coordinates government ministries and agencies with overlapping anti-trafficking responsibilities.⁴⁰⁶⁶ In 2005, the latest year for which such information is available, the government reported 352 trafficking-related arrests and 74 convictions.⁴⁰⁶⁷

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The government maintains “woman and child labor assistance centers” in every province; facilitates the participation of communities in preventing child labor activities by appointing “labor volunteers”; and disseminates information on child labor nationwide through outreach programs. Since 2003 the government has had a MOU with NGOs working on child protection, which provides details on providing services to victims of worst forms of child labor.⁴⁰⁶⁸ The Department of Public Welfare and Department of Skill Development provide vocational training to improve children’s skills and prevent them from entering work prematurely.⁴⁰⁶⁹

⁴⁰⁶⁰ *Prevention and Suppression of Prostitution Act*, Sections 8-12.

⁴⁰⁶¹ Kingdom of Thailand, *Prevention and Suppression of Trafficking in Women and Children Act* B.E. 2540 (1997).

⁴⁰⁶² *Penal Code Amendment Act*, Section 282, 283.

⁴⁰⁶³ Royal Thai Embassy, facsimile communication to USDOL official, September 5, 2002.

⁴⁰⁶⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports-2006: Thailand," Section 6d.

⁴⁰⁶⁵ U.S. Embassy-Bangkok, *reporting*, April 12, 2007.

⁴⁰⁶⁶ *Ibid.*

⁴⁰⁶⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Thailand."

⁴⁰⁶⁸ U.S. Embassy- Bangkok, *reporting*, August 30, 2005.

⁴⁰⁶⁹ U.S Embassy-Bangkok, *reporting*, March 12, 2007. See also UN/ILO, "Working Papers: Thailand " (paper presented at the ILO/Japan Asia Meeting on the Trafficking of Children for Labour and Sexual Exploitation, Manila, October 10-12, 2001).

The Royal Thai Government has a National Policy and Plan of Action for the Prevention and Eradication of the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children. The policy covers the period 2003-2007, and the Plan of Action was approved with a proposed budget of USD 34.2 million.⁴⁰⁷⁰ The Royal Thai Police have an ongoing public awareness campaign on trafficking and a hotline for reporting suspected trafficking cases. The government is providing training to police officers, prosecutors and judges on anti-trafficking laws.⁴⁰⁷¹ A series of MOU, signed in 2003-2004 between government agencies and domestic NGOs provide guidelines for the treatment of trafficked persons. In line with these guidelines, police are being trained to treat such individuals as victims of trafficking rather than as illegal immigrant workers, and victims are to become the responsibility of the Public Welfare Department instead of being deported. However, the U.S. State Department reports that implementation of the MOUs continued to be unreliable due to insufficient training of law enforcement officials and lack of familiarity with the law.⁴⁰⁷²

The government also collaborates on trafficking in persons issues with governments of neighboring countries and international organizations to raise awareness, provide shelters and social services, and assist in the repatriation of victims.⁴⁰⁷³ Along with Burma, Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Laos, and Vietnam, Thailand is a signatory to the "Coordinated Mekong Ministerial Initiative against Trafficking (COMMIT)." The members have a Sub-regional Plan of Action for 2005-2007 that translates the MOU commitments into concrete actions.⁴⁰⁷⁴ Thailand also participates in the UN Inter-Agency Project on Human Trafficking in the Greater Mekong Sub-Region (UNIAP), which has activities targeted to children exploited through trafficking.⁴⁰⁷⁵ Thailand has bilateral anti-trafficking MOUs with Cambodia and Laos,⁴⁰⁷⁶ and is working with UNICEF on several programs to assist children exploited through trafficking.⁴⁰⁷⁷

⁴⁰⁷⁰ U.S. Embassy- Bangkok, *reporting March 2, 2005*.

⁴⁰⁷¹ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Thailand." See also U.S Embassy--Bangkok, *reporting*, March 2, 2005.

⁴⁰⁷² U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports-2006: Thailand," Section 5. See also U.S. Embassy- Bangkok, *reporting*, August 30, 2005. See also U.S Embassy-Bangkok, *reporting*, March 12, 2007.

⁴⁰⁷³ Royal Thai Embassy, facsimile communication, September 5, 2002, 13.

⁴⁰⁷⁴ UNIAP, *COMMIT Process*, [online] n.d. [cited October 4, 2006]; available from http://www.no-trafficking.org/content/COMMIT_Process/commit_background.html. See also Embassy--Bangkok, *reporting March 2, 2005*.

⁴⁰⁷⁵ UNIAP, *About UNIAP*, [online] n.d. [cited October 4, 2006]; available from http://www.no-trafficking.org/content/About_UNIAP/about_uniap.htm.

⁴⁰⁷⁶ *Memorandum of Understanding between the Royal Government of the Kingdom of Cambodia and the Royal Government of the Kingdom of Thailand on Bilateral Cooperation for Eliminating Trafficking in Children and Women and Assisting Victims of Trafficking*

May 31, 2003; available from <http://www.arcppt.org/docs/MOU%20Traffcking%20CAM-TH%20English.pdf>. See also *Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of Thailand and the Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic on Cooperation to Combat Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children*, July 13, 2005; available from

http://www.humantrafficking.org/collaboration/regional/eap/news/2005_07/thai_laos_mou_english.pdf.

⁴⁰⁷⁷ UNICEF, *UNICEF Supports Initiatives to Tackle Trafficking of Women and Children in Thailand*, [online] April 17, 2006 [cited October 5, 2006]; available from http://www.unicef.org/infobycountry/Thailand_33424.html. See also Humantrafficking.org, *Thailand Combats Human Trafficking on Cambodian Border*, [online] June 25, 2006 [cited October 5, 2006]; available from <http://www.humantrafficking.org/updates/378>.

The Department of Social Development and Welfare (DSDW) and IOM cooperate in assisting trafficked individuals in Thailand,⁴⁰⁷⁸ and the DSDW works with its counterpart agencies in both Laos and Cambodia to repatriate their nationals.⁴⁰⁷⁹ DSDW also operates six regional shelters for trafficked victims⁴⁰⁸⁰ and provides legal assistance to child victims, including counseling and rehabilitation services.⁴⁰⁸¹ During 2006, the Ministry of Social Development and Human Security trained government officials on treatment of trafficking victims.⁴⁰⁸²

The Government of Thailand is a partner in a USD 3.5 million USDOL-funded project initiated in September 2006 to eliminate the worst forms of child labor in agriculture, fishing, services, and domestic work, with emphasis on trafficking across sectors. The project aims to withdraw 1,670 children and prevent 3,330 children from exploitive labor in these sectors.⁴⁰⁸³ Thailand is also included in a USD 10,670,000 ILO-IPEC Sub-Regional Project, funded by the United Kingdom and Japan through April 2008 to combat trafficking of women and children for exploitive labor in the Mekong sub-region.⁴⁰⁸⁴ Further, the Government of Thailand participated in a regional USD 3 million USDOL-funded project that ended in 2006 and that withdrew 367 children and prevented 10,378 children from trafficking throughout the region⁴⁰⁸⁵ and a USD 740,000 regional USDOL-funded child labor awareness-raising project to eliminate the worst forms of child labor.⁴⁰⁸⁶ The Netherlands is supporting a project in the Southeast Asia Region, including activities in Thailand, to combat child domestic labor. The UN Trust Fund for Human Security is implementing a USD 1.9 million program in the Philippines and Thailand to empower returned trafficking victims economically and socially.⁴⁰⁸⁷ The Government of Thailand participates as part of a project between ASEAN and AUSAID on the elimination of trafficking in women and children in four Southeast Asian countries and China's Yunnan Province.⁴⁰⁸⁸

⁴⁰⁷⁸ UN/ILO, "Thailand Working Paper". See also Human Trafficking.org, *International Organization for Migration*, [online] n.d. [cited October 4, 2006]; available from <http://humantrafficking.org/organizations/231>. See also U.S. Embassy-Bangkok, *reporting*, March 12, 2007.

⁴⁰⁷⁹ Royal Thai Embassy, facsimile communication, September 5, 2002, 9. See also U.S. Embassy-Vientiane, *reporting*, April 6, 2004.

⁴⁰⁸⁰ U.S. Embassy- Bangkok, *reporting* March 2, 2005. See also U.S. Embassy-Bangkok, *reporting*, March 12, 2007.

⁴⁰⁸¹ Royal Thai Embassy, facsimile communication, September 5, 2002, 11.

⁴⁰⁸² U.S. Embassy-Bangkok, *reporting*, March 12, 2007.

⁴⁰⁸³ ILO IPEC, *Support for National Action to Combat Child Labor*.

⁴⁰⁸⁴ ILO-IPEC, *Mekong Sub-Regional Project to Combat Trafficking in Children and Women*, [online] n.d. [cited May 20, 2005]; available from <http://www.ilo.org/public/english/region/asro/bangkok/child/trafficking/index.htm>.

⁴⁰⁸⁵ U.S. Department of Labor, *Combating Child Trafficking for Labor and Sexual Exploitation (TICSA Phase II)*, ILAB Technical Cooperation Project Summary, Washington, DC, 2006. ILO-IPEC, *Combating Child Trafficking for Labor and Sexual Exploitation (TICSA Phase II)* technical progress report, Geneva, March 2005. See also ILO-IPEC, *IPEC Action Against Child Labour: Highlights 2004*, Geneva, October 2004; available from http://www.ilo.org/public/english/standards/ipcc/publ/download/implementation_2004_en.pdf.

⁴⁰⁸⁶ ILO-IPEC, *APEC Awareness Raising Campaign: Eliminating the Worst Forms of Child Labour and Providing Educational Opportunities*, technical progress report, Geneva, March 2005. See also ILO-IPEC, *IPEC Action Against Child Labour*.

⁴⁰⁸⁷ ILO-IPEC official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, March 1, 2007.

⁴⁰⁸⁸ ARCPT, *Asia Regional Cooperation to Prevent People Trafficking*, [online] July 26, 2006 [cited October 4, 2006]; available from <http://www.arcppt.org/eng/about.html>. See also Royal Thai Embassy, *Thailand's Actions for the Prevention of Trafficking in Women and Children*, [online] January 24, 2003 [cited February 1, 2007]; available from <http://www.thaiembdc.org/socials/actionwc.html>.

The Ministry of Education is working with UNICEF to provide education assistance and training to girls at high risk of being trafficked.⁴⁰⁸⁹

⁴⁰⁸⁹ Human Trafficking.org, *UNICEF: Child Protection Project*, [online] n.d. [cited October 5, 2006]; available from <http://www.humantrafficking.org/organizations/236>.

Togo

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2000, approximately 65.8 percent of boys and 63.3 percent of girls ages 5 to 14 were working in Togo.⁴¹⁰¹

Children, including those as young as 5, were working in both urban and rural areas, particularly in family-based farming, small-scale trading, domestic work, and factories.

Working children

typically did not attend school for at least two-thirds of the year.⁴¹⁰² Children were also employed as prostitutes in bars, restaurants, and hotels.⁴¹⁰³

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 2000:	64.5% ⁴⁰⁹⁰
Minimum age for admission to work:	15 ⁴⁰⁹¹
Age to which education is compulsory:	15 ⁴⁰⁹²
Free public education:	Yes ⁴⁰⁹³
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:	101% ⁴⁰⁹⁴
Net primary enrollment rate in 2004:	79% ⁴⁰⁹⁵
Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 2000:	61.8% ⁴⁰⁹⁶
As of 2003, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	76% ⁴⁰⁹⁷
Ratified Convention 138:	3/16/1984 ⁴⁰⁹⁸
Ratified Convention 182:	9/19/2000 ⁴⁰⁹⁹
ILO-IPEC Participating Country:	Yes, associated ⁴¹⁰⁰

⁴⁰⁹⁰ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, March 1, 2007.

⁴⁰⁹¹ U.S. Department of State, "Togo," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 6d; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78762.htm>.

⁴⁰⁹² *Ibid.*, Section 5.

⁴⁰⁹³ *Ibid.*

⁴⁰⁹⁴ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

⁴⁰⁹⁵ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Rate. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

⁴⁰⁹⁶ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Survival Rate to Grade 5. Total*, accessed December 18, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

⁴⁰⁹⁷ *Ibid.*

⁴⁰⁹⁸ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, accessed September 25, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/newratframeE.htm>.

⁴⁰⁹⁹ *Ibid.*

⁴¹⁰⁰ ILO-IPEC, *IPEC Action Against Child Labour; Highlights 2006*, Geneva, October 2006; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ipcc/prod/eng/20070228_Implementationreport_en_Web.pdf.

⁴¹⁰¹ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

⁴¹⁰² U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Togo," Section 6d.

⁴¹⁰³ Integrated Regional Information Networks, "TOGO: Child prostitution goes unchecked in Togo", IRINnews.org, [online], April 23, 2004 [cited May 19, 2004]; available from <http://www.irinnews.org/print.asp?ReportID=40715>. See also ECPAT International CSEC Database, *Togo*; accessed October 13, 2006; available from <http://www.ecpat.net>.

Togo is a country of origin, destination, and transit for children trafficked for forced labor, especially domestic service and sexual exploitation. Four primary routes for child trafficking in Togo have been documented: (1) trafficking of Togolese girls for domestic and market labor in Gabon, Benin, Niger and Nigeria as well as for prostitution in Nigeria; (2) trafficking of girls within the country, particularly to the capital city, Lomé, often for domestic or market labor; (3) trafficking of girls from Benin, Nigeria and Ghana to Lomé; and (4) trafficking of boys for labor exploitation, usually in agriculture, in Nigeria, Benin and Côte d'Ivoire.⁴¹⁰⁴ There are also reports of children trafficked to Cote d'Ivoire, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, and to European countries.⁴¹⁰⁵ Some parents, misled by false information, send their children abroad with traffickers. Other parents sell children to traffickers in exchange for bicycles, radios, or clothing.⁴¹⁰⁶

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

On December 5, 2006, the Government of Togo adopted a new labor code raising the minimum employment age in any enterprise to 15 years.⁴¹⁰⁷ The law prohibits children under 18 from working at night and requires a daily rest period of at least 12 consecutive hours for all working children.⁴¹⁰⁸ It also establishes fines as a punishment for non-compliance.⁴¹⁰⁹ The Ministry of Social Affairs and Promotion of Women is the agency responsible for enforcing the new labor code. For certain industrial and technical employment, 18 years is the minimum age for entry. Ministry of Labor inspectors are responsible for enforcing this; but only enforced age restrictions in formal sectors in urban areas.⁴¹¹⁰

The law defines and prohibits the worst forms of child labor under penalty of imprisonment including slavery or similar practices, indebted servitude, forced or bonded labor, and the use of children in hostilities.⁴¹¹¹ The minimum age for both voluntary and compulsory recruitment into the military is 18.⁴¹¹² The procurement of children for prostitution or the use of children

⁴¹⁰⁴ Human Rights Watch, *Borderline Slavery: Child Trafficking in Togo*, Vol. 15, No. 8 (A), New York, April, 2003; available from <http://www.hrw.org/reports/2003/togo0403/>.

⁴¹⁰⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Togo," Section 5. See also U.S. Department of State, "Togo (Tier 2 Watch List)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/65990.htm>. See also ECPAT International CSEC Database, *Togo*; accessed October 13, 2006.

⁴¹⁰⁶ Plan International, *For the Price of a Bike: Child Trafficking in Togo*, [online] n.d. 2005 [cited April 1, 2006]; available from <http://www.plan-international.org/pdfs/togoreport.pdf>. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Togo." See also Integrated Regional Information Networks, "West Africa: Impoverished Families Trade Their Children", IRINnews.org, [Online], 2005 [cited July 1, 2005]; available from http://www.irinnews.org/report.asp?ReportID=47680&SelectRegion=West_Africa.

⁴¹⁰⁷ Embassy of Togo official, E-mail communication USDOL official, December 13, 2006. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Togo," Section 6d.

⁴¹⁰⁸ Government of Togo, *Code du Travail*, Ordonnance No. 16, (May 8, 1974), Chapter 2, Article 145; Chapter 6, Article 154.

⁴¹⁰⁹ U.S. Department of State official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, February 20, 2007.

⁴¹¹⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Togo."

⁴¹¹¹ *Code du travail*, (December 5, 2006), Chapter 1, Article 4; Chapter 4, Article 151. Government of Togo, *Penal Code*, Articles 93 and 94; available from <http://209.190.246.239/protectionproject/statutesPDF/Togo.pdf>.

⁴¹¹² Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Togo," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, London, 2004; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=800.

for the production of pornographic materials is also prohibited.⁴¹¹³ The law also makes it illegal to use children to engage in illicit activities, such as the production and trafficking of drugs. Any work whose nature is detrimental to the health, security, or morals of a child is also forbidden.⁴¹¹⁴ The law punishes child traffickers and their accomplices with a prison sentence of up to 10 years and fines.⁴¹¹⁵ A number of government ministries are involved in anti-trafficking efforts, including the Ministries of Justice, Labor, and Health. The Government of Togo has cooperated with the Governments of Benin, Ghana, and Nigeria to allow for accelerated extradition of traffickers among those countries.⁴¹¹⁶

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

In July 2006, Togo was 1 of 24 countries to adopt the Multilateral Cooperative Agreement to Combat Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children, in West and Central Africa and the Joint Plan of Action against Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children in the West and Central African Regions. As part of the Multilateral Cooperative Agreement, the governments agreed to put into place the child trafficking monitoring system developed by the USDOL-funded ILO-IPEC LUTRENA project; to ensure that birth certificates and travel identity documents cannot easily be falsified or altered; to provide assistance to each other in the investigation, arrest and prosecution of trafficking offenders; to protect, rehabilitate, and reintegrate trafficking victims; and to improve educational systems, vocational training and apprenticeships.⁴¹¹⁷

The government has a National Plan of Action on child abuse, child labor, and child trafficking that includes activities such as awareness-raising campaigns, training workshops, and establishing community structures for prevention and reintegration of child trafficking victims.⁴¹¹⁸

The Government of Togo participates in a USD 9.5 million regional USDOL-funded ILO-IPEC project to combat the trafficking of children for exploitive labor in West and Central Africa. The project targets 9,000 children for withdrawal and prevention from trafficking in 6

⁴¹¹³ Government of Togo, *Code du Travail*, Chapter 1, Article 4; Chapter 4, Article 151. Government of Togo, *Penal Code*, accessed 2004, previously online from the Protection Project, Articles 93 and 94. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Togo," Section 6c.

⁴¹¹⁴ Government of Togo, *Code du Travail*, Chapter 1, Article 4; Chapter 4, Article 151, Government of Togo, *Penal Code*, Articles 93 and 94.

⁴¹¹⁵ U.S. Embassy- Lome, *reporting*, September 26, 2005. See also Integrated Regional Information Networks, "Togo: Law passed to crack down on child traffickers," IRINnews.org, [online], 2005 [cited December 14, 2006]; available from http://www.irinnews.org/report.asp?ReportID=48460&SelectRegion=West_Africa.

⁴¹¹⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Togo," Section 5.

⁴¹¹⁷ ECOWAS and ECASS, *Multilateral Cooperation Agreement to Combat Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, in West and Central Africa*, Abuja, July 7, 2006. See also ILO-IPEC, *Combating the Trafficking of Children for Labour Exploitation in West and Central Africa (LUTRENA)*, technical progress report, Washington, DC, September 1, 2006.

⁴¹¹⁸ ECPAT International CSEC Database, *Togo*; accessed October 13, 2006. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Togo," Section 5.

countries, including Togo.⁴¹¹⁹ The government also takes part in a regional ILO-IPEC project funded by France to combat child labor in Francophone Africa.⁴¹²⁰

⁴¹¹⁹ ILO-IPEC, *Combating the Trafficking of Children for Labour Exploitation in West and Central Africa (LUTRENA)*.

⁴¹²⁰ ILO-IPEC Geneva official, E-mail communication USDOL official, November 16, 2006.

Tonga

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

There are no reports of child labor existing in the formal or informal economy. During 2006, there were increased reports of workers on foreign fishing vessels soliciting underage girls for prostitution.⁴¹²⁷

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working:	Unavailable
Minimum age for admission to work:	Unavailable
Age to which education is compulsory:	14 ⁴¹²¹
Free public education:	Yes ^{4122*}
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:	115% ⁴¹²³
Net primary enrollment rate in 2001:	96% ⁴¹²⁴
Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 2001:	Unavailable
As of 2000, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	92% ⁴¹²⁵
Ratified Convention 138:	Non-ILO member
Ratified Convention 182:	Non-ILO member
ILO-IPEC participating country:	No ⁴¹²⁶
*Must pay school fees at the secondary level.	

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

Tonga does not have legislation setting the minimum age for work.⁴¹²⁸ The law prohibits slavery, which can be interpreted to include forced or bonded labor.⁴¹²⁹ The owning and/or operating of a brothel, pimping, and soliciting in a public place are all prohibited by the law. Penalties for offenses range from imprisonment from 6 months to 2 years.⁴¹³⁰ The law also

⁴¹²¹ Paula Bloomfield, *Kingdom of Tonga on the Occasion of the United Nations General Assembly Special Session on Children*, New York, May 8-10, 2002; available from www.un.org/ga/children/tongaE.htm.

⁴¹²² Ibid. See also U.S. Department of State, "Tonga," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78793.htm>.

⁴¹²³ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, March 1, 2007.

⁴¹²⁴ Ibid.

⁴¹²⁵ Ibid.

⁴¹²⁶ ILO, *IPEC Action Against Child Labour: Highlights 2006*, Geneva, October 2006, 29; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ipcc/prod/eng/20061018_Implementationreport_eng.pdf.

⁴¹²⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Tonga," Sections 5, 6d. See also Ministry of Finance Statistics Department, *Report on the Tonga Labour Force Survey 2003*, Nuku'alofa, April 2004, 36. See also End Child Labor, *Child Labor Information Bank: Tonga*, [online] n.d. [cited October 16, 2006]; available from http://www.endchildlabor.org/db_infoBank.cfm. See also ECPAT International CSEC Database, *Tonga*, accessed October 16, 2006; available from http://www.ecpat.net/eng/Ecpat_inter/projects/monitoring/online_database/index.asp.

⁴¹²⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Tonga," Section 6d.

⁴¹²⁹ Government of Tonga, *Constitution of Tonga*, (1988), Article 2.

⁴¹³⁰ Government of Tonga, *Criminal Offenses Act*, (1988), Articles 80-81.

prohibits any person from assaulting a child in an indecent manner, abducting girls, and procuring or attempting to procure any girl under the age of 21 for trafficking for prostitution. The maximum punishment for these offenses is imprisonment for up to 5 years.⁴¹³¹ There is no military conscription in Tonga.⁴¹³²

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

Development policy in Tonga is currently being guided by the Strategic Development Plan Eight (2006-2009). Among other goals, the plan targets vulnerable groups for assistance, including children and youth, and focuses on improving educational standards.⁴¹³³

⁴¹³¹ Ibid., 125-126, 129.

⁴¹³² Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Tonga," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, London, 2004; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/resources/global-reports?root_id=159&category_id=165.

⁴¹³³ Kingdom of Tonga, *Strategic Development Plan Eight 2006-2009: Looking to the Future, Building on the Past*, 5, 46, 100, 106; available from <http://www.tonga-now.to/Resource.aspx?ID=1754>.

Trinidad and Tobago

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Children in Trinidad and Tobago are reported to work in agriculture, scavenging, loading and stocking goods, gardening, car repair, car washing, construction, fishing, and begging.⁴¹⁴⁵ Children also work as handymen, shop assistants, cosmetologist assistants, domestic servants, and street vendors.⁴¹⁴⁶ These activities are usually reported as being part of family business.⁴¹⁴⁷ Children are also reported to be victims of commercial sexual exploitation.⁴¹⁴⁸

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 2000:	3.5% ⁴¹³⁴
Minimum age for admission to work:	16 ⁴¹³⁵
Age to which education is compulsory:	12 ⁴¹³⁶
Free public education:	Yes ⁴¹³⁷
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:	102% ⁴¹³⁸
Net primary enrollment rate in 2004:	92% ⁴¹³⁹
Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 2000:	97% ⁴¹⁴⁰
As of 2003, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	100% ⁴¹⁴¹
Ratified Convention 138:	9/3/2004 ⁴¹⁴²
Ratified Convention 182:	4/23/2003 ⁴¹⁴³
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Yes, associated ⁴¹⁴⁴

⁴¹³⁴ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, October 7, 2005.

⁴¹³⁵ U.S. Embassy- Port of Spain official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, March 27, 2007. See also Government of Trinidad and Tobago, *Miscellaneous Provisions Act*, No.11 of 2006, Fifth session, Eighth Parliament (2006).

⁴¹³⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Trinidad and Tobago," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2005/61743.htm>.

⁴¹³⁷ Ibid.

⁴¹³⁸ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

⁴¹³⁹ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Rate. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

⁴¹⁴⁰ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

⁴¹⁴¹ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Survival Rate to Grade 5. Total*, accessed December 18, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

⁴¹⁴² ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, accessed October 18, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/newratframeE.htm>.

⁴¹⁴³ Ibid.

⁴¹⁴⁴ ILO, *Alphabetical List of ILO Member Countries*, [online] October 5, 2006 [cited October 18, 2006]; available from <http://www.oit.org/public/english/standards/relm/country.htm>.

⁴¹⁴⁵ U.S. Embassy- Port of Spain, *reporting*, August 24, 2004.

⁴¹⁴⁶ Ibid.

⁴¹⁴⁷ Ibid.

⁴¹⁴⁸ Government of Trinidad and Tobago, *National Plan of Action on Children*, Port of Spain, 2006.

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum age for employment in public or private industries at 16. However, children 14 to 16 may work in activities in which only family members are employed or that have been approved as vocational or technical training by the Minister of Education.⁴¹⁴⁹ Children under 18 are prohibited from working between 10 p.m. and 5 a.m. except in a family enterprise or within other limited exceptions.⁴¹⁵⁰ One such exception enables children 16 to 18 to work at night in sugar factories.⁴¹⁵¹ Violation of these regulations is subject to fines.⁴¹⁵²

The law prohibits the procurement of minors under 16 for prostitution or sexual offenses with penalties of imprisonment up to 15 years.⁴¹⁵³ Procurement is considered an offense whether committed in Trinidad and Tobago or elsewhere.⁴¹⁵⁴ The operation of a brothel is punishable by imprisonment for 5 years,⁴¹⁵⁵ and exploiting minors under 16 for commercial sexual purposes in a brothel is subject to imprisonment for 10 years.⁴¹⁵⁶ Any person responsible for a girl younger than 16 who causes or encourages commercial sexual exploitation of the minor is subject to imprisonment for 2 years.⁴¹⁵⁷ There is no compulsory military service in Trinidad & Tobago, and the minimum age for voluntary military service is 16.⁴¹⁵⁸

The Ministry of Labor and Small and Micro-Enterprise Development and the Ministry of Social Development are currently responsible for enforcing child labor provisions.⁴¹⁵⁹ Labor inspectors have the authority to enter, inspect, and examine at all reasonable hours any premises when there is reasonable cause to believe that violations are taking place.⁴¹⁶⁰ Laws concerning the worst forms of child labor, traditionally considered to be crimes, are enforced by the Police Service.⁴¹⁶¹ According to the U.S. Department of State, enforcement of child labor laws is weak because there is no comprehensive government policy on child labor and there are no established mechanisms for receiving, investigating, and addressing child labor

⁴¹⁴⁹ U.S. Embassy- Port of Spain official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, March 27, 2007. See also Right to Education, *Constitutional Guarantees: Trinidad and Tobago*, [online] [cited July 5, 2006]; available from http://www.right-to-education.org/content/age/trin_and_tob.html. See also Clive Pegus, *A Review of Child Labour Laws of Trinidad and Tobago- A Guide to Legislative Reform*, ILO Subregional Office for the Caribbean, June 2005, 26.

⁴¹⁵⁰ Right to Education, *Constitutional Guarantees: Trinidad and Tobago*. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Trinidad and Tobago," Section 6d.

⁴¹⁵¹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Trinidad and Tobago," Section 6d.

⁴¹⁵² Clive Pegus, *A Review of Child Labour Laws of Trinidad and Tobago - a Guide to Legislative Reform*, ILO Subregional Office for the Caribbean, June 2005, 35.

⁴¹⁵³ Interpol, *Legislation on Sexual Offences Against Children*, [online] [cited October 22, 2006]; available from <http://www.interpol.int/Public/Children/SexualAbuse/NationalLaws/csaTrinidadTobago.pdf>.

⁴¹⁵⁴ The Protection Project, "Trinidad and Tobago," in *2005 Human Rights Report on Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children*, 2005; available from <http://www.protectionproject.org/trinidad.doc>.

⁴¹⁵⁵ Interpol, *Legislation on Sexual Offences Against Children*.

⁴¹⁵⁶ The Protection Project, "Trinidad and Tobago."

⁴¹⁵⁷ *Ibid.*

⁴¹⁵⁸ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Trinidad and Tobago," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, London, 2004; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=838. See also, Clive Pegus, *A Review of Child Labour Laws of Trinidad and Tobago*, 32.

⁴¹⁵⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Trinidad and Tobago," Section 6d.

⁴¹⁶⁰ Clive Pegus, *A Review of Child Labour Laws of Trinidad and Tobago*, 37.

⁴¹⁶¹ *Ibid.*, 40.

complaints.⁴¹⁶² In general, the government's capacity to carry out its commitment to protect the rights and welfare of children is limited by lack of funds and expanding social needs.⁴¹⁶³

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

In August 2006, the Ministry of Social Development published the Revised National Plan of Action for Children, which includes specific goals for combating commercial sexual exploitation of children and exploitive child labor.⁴¹⁶⁴ The National Steering Committee for the Prevention and Elimination of Child Labor, with the advice and support of the ILO, is participating in a project to withdraw and rehabilitate child laborers at two landfill sites in Trinidad and Tobago.⁴¹⁶⁵

⁴¹⁶² U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Trinidad and Tobago," Section 6d.

⁴¹⁶³ *Ibid.*, Section 5.

⁴¹⁶⁴ Government of Trinidad and Tobago, *National Plan of Action on Children*.

⁴¹⁶⁵ U.S. Embassy- Port of Spain, *reporting*, August 26, 2005.

Tunisia

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In Tunisia, children can be found working in the informal sector, particularly as agricultural workers and vendors, primarily during their summer vacation from school. Also, in the informal sector, children are involved in the handicraft industry, where child labor is sometimes disguised as apprenticeship.⁴¹⁷⁵ There

is no widespread form of forced or compulsory labor in Tunisia, although there is some evidence of exploitation of children in domestic service.⁴¹⁷⁶

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working:	Unavailable
Minimum age for admission to work:	16 ⁴¹⁶⁶
Age to which education is compulsory:	16 ⁴¹⁶⁷
Free public education:	Yes ⁴¹⁶⁸
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:	110% ⁴¹⁶⁹
Net primary enrollment rate in 2004:	97% ⁴¹⁷⁰
Percent of children 5-14 attending school:	Unavailable
As of 2003, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade five:	97% ⁴¹⁷¹
Ratified Convention 138:	10/19/1995 ⁴¹⁷²
Ratified Convention 182:	2/28/2000 ⁴¹⁷³
ILO-IPEC participating country:	No ⁴¹⁷⁴

⁴¹⁶⁶ Government of Tunisia, *Code du travail, 1966*, Loi no. 66-27, (April 30, 1966), Article 53; available from <http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/docs/WEBTEXT/44414/65029/F96TUN01.htm>.

⁴¹⁶⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Tunisia," *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006* (March 6, 2007), Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78864.htm>.

⁴¹⁶⁸ Ibid.

⁴¹⁶⁹ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

⁴¹⁷⁰ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Rate. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

⁴¹⁷¹ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, March 1, 2007.

⁴¹⁷² ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, accessed October 12, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/newratframeE.htm>.

⁴¹⁷³ Ibid.

⁴¹⁷⁴ ILO, *IPEC Action Against Child Labour: Highlights 2006*, Geneva, October 2006, 30; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ipcc/prod/eng/20061018_implementationreport_eng.pdf.

⁴¹⁷⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Tunisia," Section 6d. See also ECPAT International CSEC Database, *Tunisia*, accessed September 13, 2006; available from <http://www.ecpat.net>.

⁴¹⁷⁶ ICFTU, *Internationally-Recognised Core Labour Standards in Tunisia: Report for the WTO General Council Review of the Trade Policies of Tunisia, Executive Summary*, Geneva, September 28-30, 2005, 1; available from <http://www.icftu.org/www/pdf/clstunisia2005.pdf>.

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The minimum age for employment is 16 years, with some exceptions.⁴¹⁷⁷ Children at least 13 years may perform light work in the non-industrial and agricultural sectors.⁴¹⁷⁸ They may also begin working as apprentices or through vocational training programs at 14.⁴¹⁷⁹ Children younger than 16 may work in family businesses, as long as their work does not negatively affect their mental or physical health or interfere with school.⁴¹⁸⁰ This provision does not apply to hazardous work as defined by the Labor Code.⁴¹⁸¹ The minimum age for hazardous work is 18 years, and the Ministry of Social Affairs has the authority to determine what jobs fall in this category.⁴¹⁸² The law restricts non-agricultural night work; children under 14 are prohibited from working between 8:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m.; and children between 14 and 18 are prohibited from working between 10:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m.⁴¹⁸³ Children working in the agriculture industry must have fixed rest periods and cannot work between 10:00 p.m. and 5:00 a.m.⁴¹⁸⁴ Workers in the non-agricultural sector under 18 years may not be paid less than 85 percent of the salary paid to adults.⁴¹⁸⁵

Labor inspectors from the Ministry of Social Affairs are responsible for enforcing labor laws, including child labor laws.⁴¹⁸⁶ According to reports received by the U.S. Department of State, overlapping responsibilities among various ministries, lack of resources, and cultural sensitivities sometimes limit the application of these laws.⁴¹⁸⁷ The Ministry of Women's Affairs, Family, Children, and Senior Citizens, and the Ministry of Youth, Sports, and Physical Training are responsible for protecting children's rights, with a body of Child Protection Delegates answerable to the former and based in each governorate of the country.⁴¹⁸⁸ Since the delegates were first established, the Ministry has increased resources, so that office equipment, staff and transportation are available to support the delegates' protective responsibilities.⁴¹⁸⁹

⁴¹⁷⁷ Government of Tunisia, *Code du travail*, Article 53-2.

⁴¹⁷⁸ *Ibid.*, Articles 55 and 56.

⁴¹⁷⁹ *Ibid.*, Article 53.

⁴¹⁸⁰ *Ibid.*, Article 54.

⁴¹⁸¹ ILO Committee of Experts, *Direct Request, Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138) Tunisia (ratification: 1995)*, [online] 2004 [cited October 19, 2006]; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/cgi-lex/pdconv.pl?host=status01&textbase=iloeng&document=15800&chapter=9&query=%28C138%2C+C182%2C+C95%29+%40ref+%2B+%28Tunisia%29+%40ref+%2B+%23YEAR%3E2000&highlight=&querytype=bool&context=0>.

⁴¹⁸² Government of Tunisia, *Code du travail*, Article 58.

⁴¹⁸³ *Ibid.*, Articles 65 and 66.

⁴¹⁸⁴ *Ibid.*, Article 74.

⁴¹⁸⁵ ILO NATLEX National Labor Law Database, *Décret no 2003-1691 du 18 août 2003 fixant le salaire minimum interprofessionnel garanti dans les secteurs non agricoles régis par le Code du travail*, accessed September 8, 2006; available from http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/natlex_browse.home.

⁴¹⁸⁶ Government of Tunisia, *Code du travail*, Articles 170 and 171.

⁴¹⁸⁷ U.S. Embassy-Tunisia, *reporting*, March 31, 2006.

⁴¹⁸⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Tunisia," Section 5. See also Government of Tunisia, *Ministère des Affaires de la Femme, de la Famille, de l'Enfance et des Personnes Agées (MAFFEPA)*, [online] [cited March 23, 2007]; available from <http://www.ministeres.tn/html/ministeres/tutelle/femme.html>. See also U.S. Embassy- Tunisia, *reporting*, March 31, 2006.

⁴¹⁸⁹ U.S. Embassy - Tunisia, *reporting*, April 4, 2006.

Forced labor is prohibited under the law.⁴¹⁹⁰ as well as trafficking in persons.⁴¹⁹¹ Convicted traffickers may be sentenced to prison for 3 to 20 years and fines.⁴¹⁹² The law protects children less than 18 years from abuse and exploitation, including participation in wars or armed conflicts, prostitution, and hazardous labor conditions.⁴¹⁹³ Tunisian law defines “threatened children” to include those who are at risk of sexual exploitation. The law clarifies that sexual exploitation includes prostitution or any other form of sexual deviation, including commercial sexual exploitation, that exploits the child.⁴¹⁹⁴

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

Research has not identified any specific policies or programs by the Government of Tunisia to address exploitive child labor.

⁴¹⁹⁰ ILO NATLEX National Labor Law Database, *Loi no. 89-23 dy 27 février 1989 portant suppression de la peine des travaux forcés*, accessed June 4, 2007; available from http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/natlex_browse.home.

⁴¹⁹¹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Tunisia," Section 6c.

⁴¹⁹² *Ibid*, Section 5.

⁴¹⁹³ Government of Tunisia, *Loi No. 95-92, 1995, Relative à la publication du Code de la protection de l'enfant*, (November 9, 1995), Articles 2, 3, 20, 25, 26; available from <http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/docs/WEBTEXT/42904/64989/F95TUN01.htm>.

⁴¹⁹⁴ U.S. Embassy - Tunisia, *reporting, April 4, 2006*.

Turkey

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 1999, approximately 4.6 percent of boys and 3.7 percent of girls ages 5 to 14 were working in Turkey. The majority of working children were found in the agricultural sector (66.7 percent), followed by services (18 percent), manufacturing (13.4 percent), and other sectors (2 percent).⁴²⁰⁵

Children are engaged in agriculture, metal work, woodworking, textiles and leather goods production, domestic service,⁴²⁰⁶ automobile repair, furniture making, hotel and catering work, and footwear

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 1999:	4.2% ⁴¹⁹⁵
Minimum age of work:	15 ⁴¹⁹⁶
Age to which education is compulsory:	14 ⁴¹⁹⁷
Free public education:	Yes ⁴¹⁹⁸
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2002:	91% ⁴¹⁹⁹
Net primary enrollment rate in 2002:	86% ⁴²⁰⁰
Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 1999:	88.1% ⁴²⁰¹
Percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	Unavailable
Ratified Convention 138:	10/30/1998 ⁴²⁰²
Ratified Convention 182:	8/02/2001 ⁴²⁰³
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Yes ⁴²⁰⁴

⁴¹⁹⁵ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, October 7, 2005.

⁴¹⁹⁶ U.S. Embassy- Ankara, *reporting*, August 20, 2003. See also U.S. Department of State, "Turkey," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 6d; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78844.htm>.

⁴¹⁹⁷ Embassy of Turkey, *The Implemented Programs and Measures Taken Against Child Labor in Turkey*, Washington, DC, November 9, 2001, 5. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Turkey," Section 5.

⁴¹⁹⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Turkey," Section 5.

⁴¹⁹⁹ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross and Net Enrolment Ratios, Primary, Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

⁴²⁰⁰ Ibid.

⁴²⁰¹ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

⁴²⁰² ILO, *List of Ratifications of International Labor Conventions, Minimum Age Convention, 1973*, February 5, 2007; available from <http://webfusion.ilo.org/public/db/standards/normes/appl/appl-byConvYear.cfm?hdroff=1&Lang=EN&conv=C138>.

⁴²⁰³ ILO, *List of Ratifications of International Labor Conventions, Worst Forms of Child Labor Convention, 1999*, February 5, 2007; available from <http://webfusion.ilo.org/public/db/standards/normes/appl/appl-byConvYear.cfm?hdroff=1&Lang=EN&conv=C182>.

⁴²⁰⁴ ILO-IPEC, *IPEC Action Against Child Labor: Highlights 2006*, Geneva, October 2006.

⁴²⁰⁵ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

⁴²⁰⁶ Government of Turkey and UNICEF, *The Situation of Children and Women in Turkey: An Executive Summary*, [online] 1998 [cited October 22, 2006], Section E: Child Labor; available from <http://www.die.gov.tr/CIN/Sa98.pdf>. See also Ministry of Labor and Social Security Labor Inspection Board, *Report on the Implementation of Labor Inspection Policy on Child Labor in Turkey*, Ankara, June 2000, 3, 26. See also UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

production.⁴²⁰⁷ A rapid assessment on working street children in 2001 found that street children in the cities of Diyarbakir, Adana, and Istanbul pick through garbage, shine shoes, and sell various goods, among other activities.⁴²⁰⁸

Children are trafficked to Turkey for commercial sexual exploitation and, to a lesser extent, forced labor.⁴²⁰⁹ Turkey is also used as a transit point for trafficked persons. Internal trafficking also occurs.⁴²¹⁰

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law establishes the minimum age for employment at 15 years. The law, however, allows children 14 years to perform light work that does not interfere with their education, and it enables governors in provinces dependent on agriculture to determine the minimum age for work in that sector. Before beginning a heavy and dangerous job, children 15 to 18 years must undergo a physical examination, which is to be repeated every 6 months.⁴²¹¹ Children under 16 are permitted to work no more than 8 hours per day.⁴²¹² While attending school, children are prohibited from working more than 2 hours per day or 10 hours per week. Under the law, persons should not be required to perform work unsuitable for their age or capabilities.⁴²¹³

The minimum age for recruitment into the armed forces is 19 years.⁴²¹⁴ The Ministry of Labor and Social Security (MOLSS) published a list of prohibited occupations for children 15 to 18 years.⁴²¹⁵ Children 15 to 18 years are not permitted to work in bars, coffee houses, dance halls, cabarets, casinos, or public baths, or to engage in industrial or night work. The law prohibits underground and underwater work for females of any age and for boys under 18.⁴²¹⁶ The law prohibits prostitution under 21⁴²¹⁷ and the sexual exploitation of children.⁴²¹⁸ The use of

⁴²⁰⁷ Government of Turkey and UNICEF, *Situation of Children and Women*, Section E: Child Labor. See also Ministry of Labor and Social Security Labor Inspection Board, *Report on the Implementation of Labor Inspection Policy*, 26.

⁴²⁰⁸ Bahattin Aksit, Nuray Karanci, and Ayse Gunduz-Hosgor, *Turkey Working Street Children in Three Metropolitan Cities: A Rapid Assessment*, ILO, Geneva, November 2001, 41-42; available from <http://www.ilo.org/public/english/standards/ipecc/simpoc/turkey/ra/street.pdf>.

⁴²⁰⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Turkey (Tier 2)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/>. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Turkey," Section 5.

⁴²¹⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Turkey."

⁴²¹¹ U.S. Embassy- Ankara, *reporting*, August 20, 2003.

⁴²¹² U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Turkey," Section 6d.

⁴²¹³ *Constitution of the Republic of Turkey*, Article 50; available from <http://www.hri.org/docs/turkey/>.

⁴²¹⁴ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Turkey," in *Child Soldiers Global Report- 2004, 2004*; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=933.

⁴²¹⁵ U.S. Embassy- Ankara, *reporting*, August 26, 2004.

⁴²¹⁶ See Article 176 of the 1930 General Health Care Act 1593 and Articles 68, 69, and 78 of the Labor Act 1475 as cited in Turkish Confederation of Employer Associations and ILO Ankara, *Child Labor in Turkey*, ILO Publications Bureau, Geneva, 1997, 28,31.

⁴²¹⁷ Interpol, *Legislation of Interpol Member States on Sexual Offenses Against Children- Turkey*, [online] accessed October 22, 2006; available from <http://www.interpol.int/Public/Children/SexualAbuse/NationalLaws/csaTurkey.asp>.

⁴²¹⁸ U.S. Embassy- Ankara, *reporting*, August 20, 2003.

children in pornographic materials is punishable by imprisonment for 5 to 10 years.⁴²¹⁹ The law also designates the trafficking of persons as a crime; those convicted face 8 to 12 years in prison.⁴²²⁰

The MOLSS Labor Inspection Board is responsible for enforcing child labor laws in Turkey.⁴²²¹ Approximately 100 field inspectors have been trained to handle child labor issues.⁴²²² According to the Board, the MOLSS has been unable to effectively prevent child labor for a variety of reasons, including traditional attitudes, socio-economic factors, and the predominantly informal nature of child labor in Turkey. The work in which many children engage is not covered by labor laws, such as work in agricultural sites/workplaces with fewer than 50 workers, maritime transport, family businesses, small shops, and the informal economy, and therefore cannot be regulated by the inspectorate.⁴²²³ Therefore, the Board has focused on protecting working children by improving their working conditions.⁴²²⁴ The government enforces laws more effectively in medium and large businesses.⁴²²⁵

A Commission on Child Labor Working on the Streets investigates instances of child labor and proposes intervention programs. A parallel committee exists within the Grand Turkish National Assembly.⁴²²⁶ The Interior Ministry's Child Police are specifically responsible for protecting children, including protecting working children from employer abuses.⁴²²⁷

The Task Force on Human Trafficking coordinates government action on trafficking and includes members from the Ministries of Health, Interior, Justice, Finance, and Labor.⁴²²⁸

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

In working towards meeting EU accession conditions, priorities for the Government of Turkey include fulfilling obligations to eliminate child labor.⁴²²⁹ The Government of Turkey has developed a National Timebound Policy and Program Framework designed to eliminate the

⁴²¹⁹ ILO-IPEC, *Combating the Worst Forms of Child Labor in Turkey - Supporting the Timebound Program for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor in Turkey (2004-2006)*, technical progress report, TUR/03/P50/USA, Geneva, March 2005, 2.

⁴²²⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Turkey," Section 5. See also Ministry of Foreign Affairs Republic of Turkey, *Turkey on Trafficking in Human Beings*, June 27, 2005.

⁴²²¹ Ministry of Labor and Social Security Labor Inspection Board, *Report on the Implementation of Labor Inspection Policy*, 5-6. See also Embassy of Turkey, *The Implemented Programs and Measures Taken Against Child Labor*.

⁴²²² U.S. Embassy- Ankara, *reporting*, September 1, 2005.

⁴²²³ Ministry of Labor and Social Security Labor Inspection Board, *Report on the Implementation of Labor Inspection Policy*, 3-5. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Turkey," Section 6d.

⁴²²⁴ Embassy of Turkey, *The Implemented Programs and Measures Taken Against Child Labor*, 3-7. See also Embassy of Turkey, *Policies, Programs, and Measures Against Child Labor in Turkey*, Washington, DC, September 6, 2002, 10, 11, 14.

⁴²²⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Turkey," Section 6d.

⁴²²⁶ ILO-IPEC, *Combating the Worst Forms of Child Labor (2004 - 2006)*, technical progress report, March 2005, 2,3.

⁴²²⁷ ILO-IPEC, *Combating the Worst Forms of Child Labor (2004 - 2006)*, project document, 50.

⁴²²⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Turkey," Section 5.

⁴²²⁹ Republic of Turkey Ministry of Foreign Affairs, *Executive Summary of the Turkish National Program for the Adoption of the Acquis*, 2003.

worst forms of child labor and the involvement of children under 15 in all forms of work by 2014.⁴²³⁰

The Government of Turkey is participating in the USD 2.5 million USDOL-funded ILO-IPEC project, Combating the Worst Forms of Child Labor in Turkey- Supporting the Timebound Program for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor in Turkey (2003-2007). The program includes activities in 11 provinces on the basis of the prevalence of child work in priority sectors of street work, informal economy, and seasonal agricultural labor.⁴²³¹ The project aims to withdraw 4,000 children and prevent 6,500 children from exploitive labor.⁴²³² The government is cooperating with a USDOL-funded USD 6 million project, Combating Exploitative Child Labor through Education in Turkey, 2004-2008.⁴²³³ The project is focused on assisting children working under hazardous conditions in seasonal agriculture in the provinces of Gaziantep, anliurfa, Mard n, Elazig, Agri, and Ankara.⁴²³⁴ The project aims to withdraw 3,500 children and prevent 6,500 children from exploitive labor.⁴²³⁵ The government is also participating in a European Commission-funded USD 6.4 million project to combat the worst forms of child labor in Turkey.⁴²³⁶

The Government of Turkey is taking steps to combat trafficking of persons.⁴²³⁷ The Ministry of Health provides free medical treatment to persons who have been trafficked, and the Ministry of Justice provides free legal services to victims remaining in the country.⁴²³⁸ The government sponsors anti-trafficking training programs for law enforcement officers and a hotline. Anti-trafficking brochures have been printed and distributed by law enforcement officers. Informational passport inserts have been provided by consular officials and at border crossings.⁴²³⁹ Anti-trafficking protocols have been signed with Georgia, Ukraine, and Moldova.⁴²⁴⁰ With USD 600,000 in U.S. Government funding, IOM began a new trafficking-awareness campaign in Turkey focusing on the negative results trafficking has on families and children.⁴²⁴¹

⁴²³⁰ ILO-IPEC, *Summary Outline for Action Programme on Child Labour (2004-2006)*, TUR/03/P50/USA, July 27, 2004, 2.3. See also Ministry of Labor and Social Security Child Labor Unit, *Timebound Policy and Programme Framework for the Elimination of Child Labor Turkey (Draft)*, 2003, 47.

⁴²³¹ ILO-IPEC, *Combating the Worst Forms of Child Labor (2004 - 2006)*, project document, cover, 2.

⁴²³² USDOL, *Combating the Worst Forms of Child Labor in Turkey - Supporting the Timebound National Policy and Program for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor in Turkey*, ILAB Technical Cooperation Project Summary, Washington, DC.

⁴²³³ IMPAQ International, *Combating Exploitative Child Labor through Education in Turkey*, project document, May 17, 2005, cover.

⁴²³⁴ IMPAQ International, *Combating Exploitative Child Labor through Education in Turkey*, project revision, September 19, 2005.

⁴²³⁵ USDOL, *Combating Exploitive Child Labor through Education in Turkey*, ILAB Technical Cooperation Project Summary, Washington, DC.

⁴²³⁶ ILO-IPEC official, Email communication to USDOL official, November 16, 2006.

⁴²³⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Turkey."

⁴²³⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Turkey," Section 5.

⁴²³⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Turkey."

⁴²⁴⁰ Ibid.

⁴²⁴¹ UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, *Central Asia-Turkey: IOM Launches New Anti-trafficking Campaign*, [online] February 1, 2006 [cited October 22, 2006]; available from http://www.irinnews.org/report.asp?ReportID=51485&SelectRegion=Asia&SelectCountry=CENTRAL_ASIA-TURKEY.

Tuvalu

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

No changes have been recorded since the last reporting period regarding the incidence and nature of child labor in Tuvalu.*

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:	99% ⁴²⁴²

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

No changes have been recorded since the last reporting period regarding child labor laws and enforcement in Tuvalu.*

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

No changes have been recorded since the last reporting period regarding government policies and programs in Tuvalu.*

* For more information, please refer to the U.S. Department of Labor's *2005 Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labor*.

⁴²⁴² UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

Uganda

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Child work is common in Uganda. In rural areas, children work in crop farming and in commercial agriculture related to tea, sugar, tobacco, and rice.⁴²⁵¹ In urban areas, children sell small items on the streets, work in shops, or are involved in the commercial sex industry.⁴²⁵² Children are also engaged in domestic work, stone quarrying, stone crushing, and cross-border smuggling.⁴²⁵³ Within Uganda, girls are trafficked from rural areas to urban areas and border towns for sexual exploitation.⁴²⁵⁴ The high incidence of HIV/AIDs has left many

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working:	Unavailable
Minimum age for admission to work:	14 ⁴²⁴³
Age to which education is compulsory:	Not compulsory ⁴²⁴⁴
Free public education:	Yes ^{4245*}
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2005:	118% ⁴²⁴⁶
Net primary enrollment rate:	Unavailable
Percent of children 5-14 attending school:	Unavailable
As of 2001, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	70% ⁴²⁴⁷
Ratified Convention 138:	03/25/2003 ⁴²⁴⁸
Ratified Convention 182:	6/21/2001 ⁴²⁴⁹
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Yes ⁴²⁵⁰
*Must pay for school supplies and related items.	

⁴²⁴³ Government of Uganda, *The Employment Act, 2006*, (June 8, 2006), Act 5, 32 (1-3); available from <http://www.oit.org/public/english/protection/trav/aids/laws/ugandalaw.pdf>.

⁴²⁴⁴ U.S. Embassy- Kampala, *reporting*, December 12, 2006, para 11.

⁴²⁴⁵ Government of Uganda, *The National Report on the Development of Education in Uganda at the Beginning of the 21st Century: Report to the 47th Session of the International Conference on Education, Geneva Switzerland*, August 30, 2004, 3; available from http://www.ibe.unesco.org/International/ICE47/English/Natreps/reports/uganda_rev.pdf. See also U.S. Department of State, "Uganda," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006* Washington, D.C., March 6, 2007, Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78763.htm>.

⁴²⁴⁶ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total* accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

⁴²⁴⁷ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Survival Rate to Grade 5. Total* accessed December 18, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

⁴²⁴⁸ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, [cited September 25, 2006]; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/docs/declAFpr.htm>.

⁴²⁴⁹ *Ibid.*

⁴²⁵⁰ ILO-IPEC, *IPEC Action Against Child Labour-Highlights 2006*, Geneva, October, 2006, 29; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ippec/prod/eng/20061019_Implementationreport_eng_Web.pdf.

⁴²⁵¹ ILO-IPEC, "Child Labour in Uganda: A report Based On the 2000/2001 Uganda Demographic and Health Survey," (2001), 36. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Uganda," Section 6d. See also U.S. Embassy- Kampala, *reporting*, Dec. 12, 2006, para 2.

⁴²⁵² U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Uganda," Section 6d.

⁴²⁵³ *Ibid.* See also U.S. Embassy- Kampala, *reporting*, Dec. 12, 2006, para 2- 3.

⁴²⁵⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Uganda (Tier 2 Watch List)," Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/65990.htm>.

orphans, resulting in child-headed homes. The orphans drop out of school to work to survive and to fend for their siblings.⁴²⁵⁵

Children from northern Uganda and southern Sudan were abducted by the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) and were trafficked to the eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo and other areas within northern Uganda and southern Sudan.⁴²⁵⁶ Upon being abducted by the LRA, children were forced to become cooks, porters, agricultural workers, soldiers, sex slaves, or guards. Many were also beaten, raped, and required to participate in the murder of other children who attempt to escape.⁴²⁵⁷

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum age for employment at 14 years.⁴²⁵⁸ Children between the ages of 12 and 14 may engage in light work that does not hinder their education and is supervised by an adult over 18. Children under 12 are prohibited from working in any business or workplace.⁴²⁵⁹ The law states that no child may be employed in hazardous work or between 7 p.m. and 7 a.m.⁴²⁶⁰ The Constitution of Uganda states that children under 16 years have the right to be protected from social and economic exploitation and should not be employed in hazardous work; work that would otherwise endanger their health, physical, mental, spiritual, moral, or social development; or work that would interfere with their education.⁴²⁶¹ Attendance in primary school is not required under the law.⁴²⁶² The absence of such a requirement may result in children entering work illegally.

The law prohibits compulsory and forced labor.⁴²⁶³ While trafficking in persons is not a specific violation under Ugandan law, related offenses cover detaining a person with sexual intent, which is punishable up to 7 years of imprisonment; trading in slaves, which is punishable by up to 10 years of imprisonment; and "defilement," defined as having sex with a minor, which is a punishable offense with a range of sentences leading up to the death penalty.⁴²⁶⁴ The minimum age for military service in Uganda is 18.⁴²⁶⁵ An April 2007 report presented to the Uganda Parliament by the Chairperson of the Parliamentary Forum for Children revealed that there are 5,000 under age soldiers serving in the Uganda Peoples Defense Forces (UPDF) in northern Uganda. The report stated that child recruitment into the army is caused by the

⁴²⁵⁵ U.S. Embassy- Kampala official, Email communication to USDOL official, July 26, 2007.

⁴²⁵⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report 2006: Uganda."

⁴²⁵⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Uganda," Section 5. See also U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report 2006: Uganda."

⁴²⁵⁸ *The Employment Act*, 32 (1-3).

⁴²⁵⁹ *Ibid.*, Act 6, 32 (1-4).

⁴²⁶⁰ *Ibid.*, Act 6, part I (2) and 32 (1-5)

⁴²⁶¹ *Constitution of the Republic of Uganda, Chapter 4*; available from <http://www.government.go.ug/constitution/#>.

⁴²⁶² U.S. Embassy- Kampala, *reporting*, Dec. 12, 2006, Section 11.

⁴²⁶³ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Uganda," Section 6c.

⁴²⁶⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Uganda," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2004*, Washington, D.C., February 28, 2005, Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2004/41632.htm>. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Uganda," Section 5.

⁴²⁶⁵ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, November 17, 2004; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=801.

difficulty to identify those above 18 years. The report findings also showed that because of poverty, some parents convince their underage children to join the army.⁴²⁶⁶

The Ministry of Gender, Labor, and Social Development (MGLSD), charged with enforcing child labor laws, investigates child labor complaints through district labor officers⁴²⁶⁷ and houses a Child Labor Unit.⁴²⁶⁸ Local governments are also empowered to investigate child labor complaints.⁴²⁶⁹ Under the Employment Act No. 6 2006, violation of the provisions of the law is punishable with a fine of 240 currency points. Each currency point is equivalent to Uganda Shillings 2000 (two thousand). According to the U.S. Department of State, the government demonstrates a strong will to combat child labor, but lacks resources to be effective.⁴²⁷⁰

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Government of Uganda adopted a National Child Labor Policy in November 2006. The objectives of the policy are to integrate child labor issues into national and community-level programs; establish frameworks for coordinating, monitoring, and evaluating child labor programs; and encourage efforts to eliminate child labor.⁴²⁷¹ The MGLSD also coordinates the Orphans and Vulnerable Children Policy, which extends social services to groups that include children who participate in the worst forms of labor.⁴²⁷²

The government is participating in the “Opportunities for Reducing Adolescent and Child Labor through Education (ORACLE)” project, a 4-year USD 3 million project funded by USDOL and implemented by the International Rescue Committee and the Italian Association for Volunteers in International Service. The ORACLE project contributes to the prevention and elimination of the worst forms of child labor amongst conflict-affected children in Northern Uganda through the provision of transitional and non-formal education and family-based poverty reduction strategies.⁴²⁷³ ORACLE aims to withdraw 1,495 children and prevent 1,105 from exploitive labor.⁴²⁷⁴

The government is also participating in a 3-year USD 3 million regional project that is implemented by ILO-IPEC and funded by USDOL. The objectives of the project are to combat and prevent HIV/AIDS-induced child labor in Uganda and Zambia. To reduce vulnerability to participation in child labor, the project provides vocational and basic education, psycho-

⁴²⁶⁶ US Embassy Official, Email communication to USDOL Official, July 26, 2007. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Uganda," Section 5.

⁴²⁶⁷ U.S. Embassy- Kampala, *reporting*, September 2, 2005, para 2b. See also U.S. Embassy- Kampala, *reporting*, Dec. 12, 2006, para 4.

⁴²⁶⁸ U.S. Embassy- Kampala, *reporting*, Sep 2, 2005, para 2b.

⁴²⁶⁹ Ibid. See also U.S. Embassy- Kampala, *reporting*, Dec. 12, 2006, para 4.

⁴²⁷⁰ U.S. Embassy- Kampala, *reporting*, Dec. 12, 2006, para 15.

⁴²⁷¹ Ibid., para 13.

⁴²⁷² U.S. Embassy- Kampala, *reporting*, Sep 2, 2005.

⁴²⁷³ International Rescue Committee, *Opportunities for Reducing Adolescent and Child Labor through Education (ORACLE)*, project document, New York, 2004, II and III.

⁴²⁷⁴ International Rescue Committee, *ORACLE Technical Progress Report*, New York, September 15, 2006, Annex D.

social rehabilitation and social protection to children orphaned by the HIV/AIDS epidemic.⁴²⁷⁵ The project aims to withdraw 1,600 children and prevent 2,000 children from exploitive labor over its lifetime.⁴²⁷⁶ Another regional program is being implemented by World Vision in Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, and Ethiopia and is funded by USDOL. The USD 14.5 million project, “Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, Ethiopia Together”(KURET), provides educational alternatives to children who are especially vulnerable to the worst forms of child labor because of HIV/AIDS.⁴²⁷⁷ The 4-year KURET program aims to prevent or withdraw 30,600 children from exploitive labor in four countries, including Uganda.⁴²⁷⁸

The government, tobacco exporters, and unions supported a project that aimed to reduce child labor in the tobacco growing industry by improving access to education. In 2003, the Eliminate Child Labour in Tobacco Foundation funded a 3-year USD 516,560 project to reduce the incidence of child labor in the tobacco industry in the Masindi region of the country.⁴²⁷⁹

⁴²⁷⁵ ILO-IPEC, *Combating and Preventing HIV Induced Child Labour in Sub-Saharan Africa: Pilot Action in Uganda and Zambia*, project document, Geneva, September 8, 2004.

⁴²⁷⁶ *Ibid.*, 21.

⁴²⁷⁷ World Vision, *Project Document Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, and Ethiopia Together (KURET)*, projec document, Kampala, July 18, 2005, 2-3.

⁴²⁷⁸ World Vision, *KURET Technical Progress Report*, Washington D.C., September 27, 2006, Annex D.

⁴²⁷⁹ Eliminate Child Labour in Tobacco Foundation, *The Project for Elimination of Child Labour from Tobacco Farms in Masindi District, Uganda*, November 14, 2003, 1-3; available from <http://www.eclt.org/filestore/UgandaProgramme.pdf>. See also ECLT Foundation, *ECLT Foundation Program in Uganda 2003-2006: The Project for Elimination of Child Labour from Tobacco Farms in Masindi District, Uganda*, [online] November 14, 2004 [cited May 26, 2004]; available from <http://www.eclt.org/filestore/UgandaProgramme.pdf>.

Ukraine

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Children in Ukraine are found working in agriculture, trade, services, manufacturing, and construction. Child laborers typically begin working at 12.⁴²⁸⁸

Children in rural areas were approximately twice as likely to work as those in urban areas.⁴²⁸⁹ Child begging is also present in Ukraine.⁴²⁹⁰

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working:	Unavailable
Minimum age of work:	16 ⁴²⁸⁰
Age to which education is compulsory:	15 ⁴²⁸¹
Free public education:	Yes ⁴²⁸²
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:	95% ⁴²⁸³
Net primary enrollment rate in 2004:	82% ⁴²⁸⁴
Percent of children 5-14 attending school:	Unavailable
Percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	Unavailable
Ratified Convention 138:	5/3/1979 ⁴²⁸⁵
Ratified Convention 182:	12/14/2000 ⁴²⁸⁶
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Yes ⁴²⁸⁷

Ukraine is a source country for child pornography available on the Internet, and the commercial sexual exploitation of children is a problem.⁴²⁹¹ The country is a source country for

⁴²⁸⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Ukraine," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 6d; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78846.htm>. See also U.S. Embassy- Kyiv, *reporting*, December 13, 2006.

⁴²⁸¹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Ukraine," Section 5. See also ECPAT International, *CSEC Database- Ukraine*, [accessed October 21, 2006]; available from http://www.ecpat.net/eng/Ecpat_inter/projects/monitoring/online_database/Countries.asp?arrCountryID=&CountryProfile=facts&CSEC=&Implement=&Nationalplans=&orgWorkCSEC=&DisplayBy=&GetCategoryName=&GetCountryID=182&Submit=Show.

⁴²⁸² *Constitution of Ukraine*, Fifth Session of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine (June 28, 1996); available from <http://www.rada.kiev.ua/const/conengl.htm>. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Ukraine," Section 5.

⁴²⁸³ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, March 1, 2007.

⁴²⁸⁴ *Ibid.*

⁴²⁸⁵ ILO, *List of Ratifications of International Labour Conventions, C138 Minimum Age Convention, 1973*, [accessed October 19, 2006]; available from <http://webfusion.ilo.org/public/db/standards/normes/appl/appl-byConvYear.cfm?hdroff=1&Lang=EN&conv=C138>.

⁴²⁸⁶ ILO, *List of Ratifications of International Labour Conventions, C182 Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999*, [accessed October 19, 2006]; available from <http://webfusion.ilo.org/public/db/standards/normes/appl/appl-byConvYear.cfm?hdroff=1&Lang=EN&conv=C182>.

⁴²⁸⁷ ILO-IPEC, *IPEC Action Against Child Labor: Highlights 2006*, October 2006; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ipec/prod/eng/20061019_Implementationreport_eng_Web.pdf.

⁴²⁸⁸ PROTECT CEE, *Ukraine Country Profile*, [online] 2005 [cited October 19 2006], 5; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ipec/prod/eng/2005_fs_ukraine.pdf.

⁴²⁸⁹ *Ibid.*

⁴²⁹⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Ukraine," Section 6d.

⁴²⁹¹ *Ibid.*, Sections 5 and 6d. See also ECPAT International, *CSEC Database- Ukraine*.

trafficking children.⁴²⁹² Children have been trafficked for sexual exploitation and forced labor.⁴²⁹³ Internal trafficking of children is a large problem in Ukraine.⁴²⁹⁴ Most trafficked girls are subject to commercial sexual exploitation, while boys are trafficked for labor or to sell drugs.⁴²⁹⁵ Debt bondage (forcing the child to pay off debt incurred as a result of the trafficking) is a common occurrence in trafficking situations involving Ukrainian children.⁴²⁹⁶

Street children, victims of domestic violence, orphans, residents of boarding schools, and children with absent parents (often due to migration in search of work or incarceration) are the groups most vulnerable to exploitation in the worst forms of child labor, including commercial sexual exploitation.⁴²⁹⁷

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The minimum age for employment is 16 years.⁴²⁹⁸ With government permission and the consent of a parent, 15-year-old children may work in certain non-hazardous industries. With the permission of a parent, 14-year-old children may work in agriculture and the social sector (orphanages, hospitals, elder care, etc.) on a short-term basis if it does not interfere with their education.⁴²⁹⁹ The employment of an underage child is prohibited by law and is punishable by up to 6 months of imprisonment or judicial restraint for up to 3 years. The sentence is increased to 2 to 5 years of imprisonment if multiple children are involved, if considerable damage is done to the health of the child, or if the child was involved in hazardous work.⁴³⁰⁰

Forced labor of children is forbidden by law.⁴³⁰¹ The minimum age for military conscription is 18, and age 17 for voluntary recruitment.⁴³⁰² Pimping or managing a brothel that employs minors is illegal and punishable by 2 to 7 years of imprisonment. Involvement of a child in

⁴²⁹² U.S. Department of State, "Ukraine (Tier 2)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/>. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Ukraine," Section 5.

⁴²⁹³ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Ukraine," Section 6d. See also PROTECT CEE, *Ukraine Country Profile*, 7.

⁴²⁹⁴ ILO-IPEC, *Rapid Assessment of Trafficking in Children for Labour and Sexual Exploitation in Ukraine, 2003*, Geneva, 2004, 2.

⁴²⁹⁵ PROTECT CEE, *Ukraine Country Profile*, 7. See also ILO-IPEC, *Rapid Assessment Ukraine*, 1.

⁴²⁹⁶ ILO-IPEC, *Rapid Assessment Ukraine*, 2.

⁴²⁹⁷ Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Consideration of Reports Submitted by States Parties Under Article 12 (1) of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography- Ukraine*, April 6, 2006, 7. See also ILO-IPEC, *Trafficking and other Worst Forms of Child Labour in Central and Eastern Europe (Phase II)*, project document, Geneva, September 19, 2006, 19. See also PROTECT CEE, *Ukraine Country Profile*.

⁴²⁹⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Ukraine," Section 6d.

⁴²⁹⁹ ILO-IPEC, *Trafficking and other Worst Forms of Child Labour In Central and Eastern Europe (Phase II)*, project document, 34. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Ukraine," Section 6d. See also U.S. Embassy- Kyiv, *reporting, December 13, 2006*.

⁴³⁰⁰ U.S. Embassy- Kyiv, *reporting, December 13, 2006*.

⁴³⁰¹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Ukraine," Section 6c.

⁴³⁰² Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Ukraine," in *Child Soldiers Global Report- 2004*, London, 2004; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=935.

prostitution is prohibited and offenders can be punished by 3 to 5 years of imprisonment.⁴³⁰³ Importation, sale, distribution, or manufacture of child pornography is punishable by 6 months to 3 years of imprisonment. The sentence is increased to 5 years if the material is on film or video media. If there are repeated child pornography violations or if the act was committed by a group of persons and involved compelling the minor to participate, the sentence is increased to 3 to 7 years of imprisonment.⁴³⁰⁴ Trafficking of minors 14 to 18 is prohibited by law and is punishable by 5 to 12 years of imprisonment.⁴³⁰⁵ If the child is under 14, the punishment is 8 to 15 years of imprisonment.⁴³⁰⁶

The State Labor Inspectorate and the State Department of Surveillance over Labor Legislation Observance in the Ministry of Labor and Social Policy (MOLSP) are responsible for enforcing child labor policies and laws in the formal sector.⁴³⁰⁷ There were 708 labor inspectors in Ukraine in 2006.⁴³⁰⁸ The Labor Inspectorate does not have the authority to inspect informal workplaces.⁴³⁰⁹ In addition to the Labor Inspectorate, the Ministry of Emergencies and the Ministry of Health also conduct inspections.⁴³¹⁰

The Ministry of the Interior's (MOI) Anti-trafficking Department is responsible for the enforcement of anti-trafficking laws. It has a staff of approximately 600 officers and branch offices in all 27 regional directorates.⁴³¹¹ In 2005, 446 trafficking victims, 39 percent of whom were children, were returned to Ukraine.⁴³¹² In 2005, the police conducted 2,000 raids to investigate suspected instances of child exploitation and trafficking, including checks at 600 photographic and video studios, 2,500 nightclubs, 300 massage parlors, 270 modeling agencies, 420 hotels and campsites, and 1,100 Internet cafes.⁴³¹³ The MOLSP revoked the licenses of a limited number of employment agencies suspected of involvement in trafficking; however, the MOI reported that MOLSP's enforcement was not uniformly effective.⁴³¹⁴ In 2005, the most recent date for which such information is available, there were 415 criminal prosecutions for

⁴³⁰³ Interpol, *Legislation of Interpol Member States on Sexual Offences Against Children*, October 21, 2006; available from <http://www.interpol.int/Public/Children/SexualAbuse/NationalLaws/default.asp>.

⁴³⁰⁴ Ibid.

⁴³⁰⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Ukraine," Section 5. See also ILO-IPEC, *Rapid Assessment Ukraine*, 10.

⁴³⁰⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Ukraine," Section 5.

⁴³⁰⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Ukraine," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2005*, Washington, DC, March 8, 2006, Section 6d; available from <http://www.state.gov/drl/rls/hrrpt/2005/61682.htm>. See also U.S. Embassy- Kyiv, *reporting, December 13, 2006*.

⁴³⁰⁸ State Labor Inspectorate- Ukraine official, Interview with USDOL official, March 30, 2006. See also Ministry of Labor and Social Policy- Ukraine official, Interview with USDOL official, March 30, 2006.

⁴³⁰⁹ Ministry of Labor and Social Policy- Ukraine official, interview, March 30, 2006. See also ILO-IPEC, *Trafficking and other Worst Forms of Child Labour In Central and Eastern Europe (Phase II), project document*, 35. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Ukraine," Section 6d.

⁴³¹⁰ Ministry of Labor and Social Policy- Ukraine official, interview, March 30, 2006.

⁴³¹¹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Ukraine," Section 5. See also U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Ukraine."

⁴³¹² Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Consideration of Reports Submitted by States Parties Under Article 12 (1) of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography- Ukraine*, 6.

⁴³¹³ Ibid., 7.

⁴³¹⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Ukraine." See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Ukraine," Section 5.

trafficking, an increase of 54.3 percent over 2004. In 2005, the most recent year when such information was available, 115 persons were convicted of trafficking.⁴³¹⁵ The U.S. Department of State reports that corruption among police and in the courts hampered the enforcement of anti-trafficking laws.⁴³¹⁶

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

On May 11, 2006, the government approved the State Program to Combat Child Homelessness and Neglect for 2006-2010. The document identifies child labor as a factor related to child homelessness. The program aims to identify and support at-risk families.⁴³¹⁷ The Government of Ukraine has a National Action Plan for 2006 to 2016 on the implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, with separate chapters on the worst forms of child labor, child trafficking, and sexual exploitation.⁴³¹⁸

The Department of Juvenile Affairs in the Ministry of Family, Youth, and Sport (MOFYS) and the Criminal Police on Juvenile Affairs in the MOI have the responsibility of identifying working children in the informal sector.⁴³¹⁹ The Ministry of Health is responsible for providing physical and psychological rehabilitation to child victims of commercial sexual exploitation.⁴³²⁰ Children found to be involved in prostitution are often put in boarding schools. Although the boarding schools provide education, room, and board, conditions are usually poor.⁴³²¹

In cooperation with the IOM and with funding from the European Commission, the government supports shelters for victims in seven cities.⁴³²² The government assisted potential trafficking victims through its overseas embassies.⁴³²³ The government and NGOs cooperated on awareness-raising campaigns.⁴³²⁴ A trafficking awareness-raising campaign for teachers and students was managed by the Ministry for Education and Science.⁴³²⁵ The government conducted anti-trafficking trainings for investigators, prosecutors, and judges in conjunction

⁴³¹⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Ukraine."

⁴³¹⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Ukraine," Section 5. See also U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Ukraine."

⁴³¹⁷ ILO-IPEC, *National Programme for the Prevention and Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour in Ukraine*, technical progress report, Geneva, August 31, 2006.

⁴³¹⁸ Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Consideration of Reports Submitted by States Parties Under Article 12 (1) of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography- Ukraine*, 37. See also Ministry of Family Youth and Sport- Ukraine official, Interview with USDOL official, March 29 2006.

⁴³¹⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Ukraine," Section 6d.

⁴³²⁰ Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Consideration of Reports Submitted by States Parties Under Article 12 (1) of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography- Ukraine*, 26.

⁴³²¹ ECPAT International, *CSEC Database- Ukraine*.

⁴³²² U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Ukraine," Section 5.

⁴³²³ *Ibid.*

⁴³²⁴ *Ibid.* See also Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Consideration of Reports Submitted by States Parties Under Article 12 (1) of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography- Ukraine*, 39.

⁴³²⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Ukraine."

with international organizations.⁴³²⁶ The government and NGOs continue to screen and refer victims found at the airport in Kyiv and the port of Odessa.⁴³²⁷

The Government of the Ukraine cooperated with ILO-IPEC on a USD 1.1 million USDOL-funded project which ended in August 2006. It improved Ukraine's policy and legal framework for addressing child labor, raised awareness, conducted research on child labor issues, established a child labor monitoring system, and withdrew 1,617 children and prevented 354 children from the worst forms of child labor.⁴³²⁸ The government participated in a 3-year USD 1.5 million USDOL-funded ILO-IPEC regional project to combat the trafficking of children for labor and sexual exploitation that ended in January 2007.⁴³²⁹ The project withdrew 195 children and prevented 666 children from exploitive labor in Ukraine.⁴³³⁰ Beginning in September 2006, the government supported a USD 3.5 million USDOL-funded project to combat child trafficking and other worst forms of child labor. It operates in Albania, Bulgaria, the UN-administered Province of Kosovo, Moldova, Romania, and Ukraine. The project aims to withdraw 1,350 and prevent 3,150 children from exploitive labor throughout all of the participating countries.⁴³³¹ In 2006, USAID funded a USD 1.2 million project through the IOM to raise awareness of trafficking in persons among children and young women 12 to 25 years, to provide support to local and national government, and to assist approximately 700 trafficking victims.⁴³³² ILO-IPEC has worked to support community-based centers to assist children from at-risk families, street children and orphans. It also assisted with a program to provide support to children leaving state boarding schools, a group especially vulnerable to trafficking, and train them for life outside of the institution.⁴³³³

⁴³²⁶ Ibid.

⁴³²⁷ Ibid.

⁴³²⁸ ILO-IPEC, *National Program for the Prevention and Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor in Ukraine*, final technical progress report, Geneva, August 31, 2006, 1, 58.

⁴³²⁹ ILO-IPEC, *Combating Trafficking in Children for Labour and Sexual Exploitation in the Balkans & Ukraine*, technical progress report, Geneva, August 31, 2006.

⁴³³⁰ ILO-IPEC, *Combating Trafficking in Children for Labour and Sexual Exploitation in the Balkans & Ukraine*, final technical progress report, 2007, 64.

⁴³³¹ ILO-IPEC, *Trafficking and other Worst Forms of Child Labour In Central and Eastern Europe (Phase II)*, project document, cover page, vi, 69.

⁴³³² USAID, *Ukraine - Data Sheet*, October 21, 2006; available from http://www.usaid.gov/policy/budget/cbj2006/ee/pdf/ua_121=0325.pdf.

⁴³³³ U.S. Embassy- Kyiv, Email Communication to USDOL official, July 27, 2007.

Uruguay

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

The majority of child labor in Uruguay occurs in the informal sector. Some children work in agriculture or as street vendors or jugglers.⁴³⁴² They also work cleaning windshields, begging, and helping their parents as garbage sorters.⁴³⁴³ Commercial sexual exploitation of children occurs in Uruguay, mostly in the areas that border Brazil.⁴³⁴⁴ Children, including

those who are very poor and homeless, are involved in prostitution around factories and in slums, and a specific market for virgin children exists.⁴³⁴⁵ There are also isolated reports of prostitution of boys.⁴³⁴⁶ There is a growing concern of possible child prostitution rings in Montevideo and Punta del Este, with the involvement of hotel staff and taxi drivers.⁴³⁴⁷ Reports from children's rights NGOs indicate that 90 percent of minors who resorted to prostitution did so to assist their families, who allowed or actively promoted their

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working:	Unavailable
Minimum age for admission to work:	15 ⁴³³⁴
Age to which education is compulsory:	14 ⁴³³⁵
Free public education:	Yes ⁴³³⁶
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2003:	109% ⁴³³⁷
Net primary enrollment rate in 2003:	Unavailable
Percent of children 5-14 attending school:	Unavailable
As of 2002, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	88% ⁴³³⁸
Ratified Convention 138:	6/2/1977 ⁴³³⁹
Ratified Convention 182:	8/3/2001 ⁴³⁴⁰
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Yes ⁴³⁴¹

⁴³³⁴ *Código de la niñez y la adolescencia en Uruguay*, (August 2, 2004), Article 162; available from <http://www.gurisesunidos.org.uy/codigo.htm>.

⁴³³⁵ Pan American Health Organization, *Uruguay*, [online] 2006 [cited December 20, 2006]; available from <http://www.paho.org/spanish/sha/prfluru.htm>. See also Government of Uruguay, *Constitución de la República*, Article 70; available from <http://www.parlamento.gub.uy/constituciones/const004.htm>.

⁴³³⁶ *Constitución de la República*, Article 71.

⁴³³⁷ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

⁴³³⁸ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Survival Rate to Grade 5. Total*, accessed December 18, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

⁴³³⁹ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, accessed December 28; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/docs/declworld.htm>.

⁴³⁴⁰ *Ibid.*

⁴³⁴¹ ILO, *Ficha País: Uruguay*, [online] [cited December 28, 2006]; available from <http://www.oit.org.pe/spanish/260ameri/oitreg/activid/proyectos/ipec/doc/fichas/fichauruguay.doc>.

⁴³⁴² U.S. Department of State, "Uruguay," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78908.htm>. Section 6d.

⁴³⁴³ U.S. Department of State, E-mail communication to USDOL official, July 27, 2007.

⁴³⁴⁴ ECPAT International CSEC Database, *Uruguay*, accessed August 28, 2006; available from <http://www.ecpat.net>. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports-2006: Uruguay," Section 5.

⁴³⁴⁵ ECPAT International CSEC Database, *Uruguay*.

⁴³⁴⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports-2006: Uruguay." Section 5.

⁴³⁴⁷ *Ibid.*, Section 5.

involvement.⁴³⁴⁸ Poor families reportedly have turned their children over to forced domestic service and agricultural labor.⁴³⁴⁹

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum age for employment at 15 years.⁴³⁵⁰ Adolescents between 15 and 18 years require government permission to work and must undergo physical exams to identify possible exposure to job-related physical harm. These permits are not granted for hazardous, fatiguing, and night work.⁴³⁵¹ The government only grants work permission to minors who either have finished 9 years of compulsory education or who are enrolled in school and are completing compulsory education.⁴³⁵² Another exception that may be granted by the Adolescent Labor Division of the National Institute for Adolescents and Children (INAU) is for minors ages 13 through 15 to engage in mainly cultural or artistic activities.⁴³⁵³ Minors are not allowed to work for more than 6 hours per day within a 36-hour work week. Further, minors have to rest 1 day a week, preferably Sunday, and cannot work between the hours of 10 p.m. and 6 a.m.⁴³⁵⁴ Violations of child labor laws are punishable by fines.⁴³⁵⁵ Parents or adults responsible for working children may be subject to imprisonment of 3 months to 4 years.⁴³⁵⁶

Forced or compulsory labor, including by children, is prohibited by law.⁴³⁵⁷ The legal system addresses sexual exploitation, prostitution, and trafficking involving minors and provides prison terms of 2 to 12 years.⁴³⁵⁸ The minimum age for voluntary or compulsory military conscription is 18 years.⁴³⁵⁹

The INAU bears primary responsibility for implementing policies to prevent and regulate child labor and to provide training on child labor issues.⁴³⁶⁰ INAU works with the Ministry of

⁴³⁴⁸ Ibid.

⁴³⁴⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Uruguay (Tier 2)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/65990.htm>. See also U.S. Department of State, E-mail communication to USDOL Official, September 20, 2006.

⁴³⁵⁰ *Código de la niñez y la adolescencia en Uruguay*, Article 162.

⁴³⁵¹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports-2006: Uruguay," Section 6d.

⁴³⁵² U.S. Department of State, "Uruguay," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2005*, Washington, DC, March 8, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2005/61744.htm>.

⁴³⁵³ State, E-mail communication, July 27, 2007.

⁴³⁵⁴ ILO, *NATLEX National Labour Law Database*, [online] [cited September 8, 2006]; available from <http://www.mtss.gub.uy/indice.htm>.

⁴³⁵⁵ *Código de la niñez y la adolescencia en Uruguay*, Article 173.

⁴³⁵⁶ Ibid., Article 176. See also *Criminal Code of Uruguay*, (1986), Article 279B; available from http://www.unifr.ch/derechopenal/legislacion/uy/cp_uruguay.htm.

⁴³⁵⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports-2006: Uruguay," Section 6d.

⁴³⁵⁸ *Poder Legislativo, República Oriental del Uruguay: Violencia Sexual Comercial o No Comercial Cometida Contra Niños, Adolescentes o Incapaces, Ley No. 17.815*, (August 18, 2004), Articles 5 and 6; available from <http://www.parlamento.gub.uy/Leyes/Ley17815.htm>.

⁴³⁵⁹ U.S. Central Intelligence Agency, *The World Factbook- Uruguay*, [online] September 19, 2006 [cited September 25 2006]; available from <https://www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook/geos/uy.html>.

⁴³⁶⁰ The National Institute for Adolescents and Children (INAU) was formerly known as the National Institute for Minors (INAME). See also *Código de la niñez y la adolescencia en Uruguay*, Articles 68 and 223. See also Ministerio

Labor to investigate complaints of child labor and with the Ministry of the Interior to prosecute cases.⁴³⁶¹ INAU has hired 109 inspectors to conduct approximately 2,000 inspections per year, imposing sanctions in 5 percent of the cases.⁴³⁶² However, the U.S. Department of State reports that a lack of resources and the concentration of child work in the informal sector, which accounts for 40 percent of total employment in Uruguay, make enforcement difficult.⁴³⁶³ Authorities recently investigated the case of a child prostitution ring operating at the border with Argentina.⁴³⁶⁴ The Crime Prevention Office within the Ministry of the Interior addresses child trafficking and implements a database on cases related to trafficking.⁴³⁶⁵

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Interdepartmental Commission for the Prevention and Protection of Children Against Sexual Exploitation, along with INAU, has a national plan of action against commercial sexual exploitation of children that includes protection measures for victims and witnesses. However, the organizations reported a lack of resources to pursue their objective.⁴³⁶⁶ The Ministry of Education has produced anti-trafficking public service announcements on national television.⁴³⁶⁷

The Government of Uruguay funds various NGOs that assist homeless children and victims of trafficking. Programs for trafficking victims include legal, medical and psychological care, as well as shelter, food, and education.⁴³⁶⁸ However, according to the U.S. Department of State, care for victims was not available in all parts of the country; shelters could not meet the demand and did not keep records that identified whether they were in fact serving trafficking victims.⁴³⁶⁹

The government is also participating in an IDB-financed program that includes initiatives to address child labor, reduce school attrition, and improve children's performance in school.⁴³⁷⁰

de Trabajo y Seguridad Social, *Comite nacional para la Erradicacion del Trabajo Infantil*, [online] [cited September 25 2006]; available from <http://www.mtss.gub.uy/marnews.htm>.

⁴³⁶¹ See U.S. Embassy- Montevideo, *reporting*, September 2004, para 4.

⁴³⁶² U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports-2006: Uruguay," Section 6d.

⁴³⁶³ *Ibid.*

⁴³⁶⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Uruguay."

⁴³⁶⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Uruguay (Tier 2)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2005*, Washington, DC, June 3, 2005; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2005/46616.htm>.

⁴³⁶⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports-2006: Uruguay," Section 5.

⁴³⁶⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Uruguay."

⁴³⁶⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports-2006: Uruguay." See also U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Uruguay."

⁴³⁶⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Uruguay."

⁴³⁷⁰ The 5-year program was funded in November 2002. See IDB, *Uruguay: Comprehensive Program for At-risk Children, Adolescents and Families*, UR-134, 2002, 2; available from <http://www.iadb.org/exr/doc98/apr/ur1434e.pdf>. See also IDB, *Approved Projects- Uruguay*, [online] [cited September 15, 2006]; available from <http://www.iadb.org/exr/doc98/apr/lcuru.htm>.

UNICEF is implementing a project to raise awareness of children's and adolescents' rights that includes a component on child labor.⁴³⁷¹

⁴³⁷¹ UNICEF, *At a Glance: Uruguay*, [online] [cited September 25, 2006]; available from <http://www.unicef.org/infobycountry/uruguay.html>.

Uzbekistan

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2000, approximately 19.9 percent of boys and 12.9 percent of girls ages 5 to 14 were working in Uzbekistan.⁴³⁸² Children work in agriculture in rural areas, where the widespread, compulsory mobilization of children to help with cotton harvests has been reported.⁴³⁸³ Schools close in some rural areas to allow pupils and teachers

to work during the harvest, sometimes without remuneration. Reports indicate that children have been forced to spray harmful chemicals, with no protection, and to endure poor living

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 2000:	16.5% ⁴³⁷²
Minimum age of work:	16 ⁴³⁷³
Age to which education is compulsory:	For 9 years ⁴³⁷⁴
Free public education:	Yes ⁴³⁷⁵
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:	100% ⁴³⁷⁶
Net primary enrollment rate:	Unavailable
Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 2000:	79.6% ⁴³⁷⁷
As of 2001, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	89% ⁴³⁷⁸
Ratified Convention 138:	No ⁴³⁷⁹
Ratified Convention 182:	No ⁴³⁸⁰
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Yes, associated ⁴³⁸¹

⁴³⁷² UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, October 7, 2005.

⁴³⁷³ U.S. Department of State, "Uzbekistan," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 6d; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78848.htm>.

⁴³⁷⁴ Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On Education" (1992) as cited in Ministry of Public Education and Ministry of Higher and Secondary Special Education, *National Action Plan on Education for All in the Republic of Uzbekistan*, Tashkent, 2002, 13; available from http://www.unescobkk.org/fileadmin/user_upload/efa/UzbekistanNatlPlan.pdf.

⁴³⁷⁵ *Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan*, 1992, (December 8, 1992); available from <http://www.umid.uz/Main/Uzbekistan/Constitution/constitution.html>.

⁴³⁷⁶ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

⁴³⁷⁷ *Ibid.*

⁴³⁷⁸ U.S. Embassy- Tashkent, *reporting*, December 20, 2006.

⁴³⁷⁹ ILO, *List of Ratifications of International Labor Conventions, C138 Minimum Age Convention, 1973*, accessed February 5, 2007; available from <http://webfusion.ilo.org/public/db/standards/normes/appl/appl-byConvYear.cfm?hdroff=1&Lang=EN&conv=C138>.

⁴³⁸⁰ ILO, *List of Ratifications of International Labor Conventions, C182 Worst Forms of Child Labor Convention, 1999*, accessed February 5, 2007; available from <http://webfusion.ilo.org/public/db/standards/normes/appl/appl-byConvYear.cfm?hdroff=1&Lang=EN&conv=C182>.

⁴³⁸¹ ILO-IPEC, *IPEC Action Against Child Labor: Highlights 2006*, Geneva, October 2006.

⁴³⁸² UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

⁴³⁸³ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Uzbekistan," Section 6d. See also U.S. Embassy- Tashkent, *reporting*, December 20, 2006. See also UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, *Uzbekistan: Focus on Rural Schools*, [online] August 10, 2004 [cited February 2, 2007]; available from http://www.irinnews.org/report.asp?ReportID=42608&SelectRegion=Central_Asia&SelectCountry=UZBEKISTAN.

conditions on farms located far from their homes and families.⁴³⁸⁴ There are reports that children help cultivate rice and raise silk worms in rural areas.⁴³⁸⁵ Children as young as 7 or 8 routinely work in family businesses in cities during school holidays and vacations.⁴³⁸⁶ Children also work in street vending,⁴³⁸⁷ services, construction, building materials manufacturing, and transportation.⁴³⁸⁸ Older children frequently work as temporary hired workers.⁴³⁸⁹ The Commission on Minors registered 15,000 children living and working on the streets between 2001 and 2005.⁴³⁹⁰ Child beggars are present in Tashkent.⁴³⁹¹ Minor girls are engaged in forced prostitution and are trafficked internally and externally, including to destinations in the Persian Gulf, Asia, Russia and Western Europe, for sexual exploitation.⁴³⁹²

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The Constitution sets the minimum age for employment at 16 years.⁴³⁹³ Fourteen-year-olds may only work in light labor that does not negatively affect their health and/or development.⁴³⁹⁴ Children 14 to 16 years are required to obtain written permission from a parent or guardian in order to work, as long as work does not interfere with their studies.

⁴³⁸⁴ International Crisis Group, *The Curse of Cotton: Central Asia's Destructive Monoculture*, February 28, 2005, 17-18; available from

http://www.icg.org/library/documents/asia/central_asia/093_curse_of_cotton_central_asia_destructive_monoculture.pdf. See also U.S. Embassy- Tashkent, *reporting*, August 11, 2004. See also Legal Aid Society, STATUS, Center for Social and Humanitarian Researches, Business Women Association (Kokand), Mekhri, Beguborlik, SABO, PIASC, KRIDI, Mekhr Tayanchi, UNESCO Youth Club, Kokand Children's Club, Shygiz Children's Club Kukus, Mothers and Daughters, Bolalar va Kattalar Children's Club, Save the Children (UK), and UNICEF, *Supplementary NGO Report on the Implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child in the Republic of Uzbekistan, 2001*, [accessed October 22, 2006,] 10, 33; available from

<http://www.crin.org/docs/resources/treaties/crc.28/Uzbekistan.doc>. See also Integrated Regional Information Network, "Uzbekistan: Forced Labour Continues in Cotton Industry", IRINNews.org, [online], December 9, 2005 [cited October 22, 2006]; available from

<http://www.irinnews.org/report.asp?ReportID=50586&SelectRegion=Asia&SelectCountry=UZBEKISTAN>.

⁴³⁸⁵ Cango.net, *Initiative Newsletter: The Situation with Child Labour is Unlikely to Change in the Foreseeable Future*, [online] 2002.

⁴³⁸⁶ U.S. Department of Labor- Bureau of International Labor Affairs, *Foreign Labor Trends Report: Uzbekistan 2006*, December 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/78396.htm>.

⁴³⁸⁷ Najibullah Farangis, *Central Asia: For Many Young Uzbeks and Tajiks, Working is a Way of Life*, [online] May 27, 2003 [cited June 15, 2005]. See also Legal Aid Society, STATUS, Center for Social and Humanitarian Researches, Business Women Association (Kokand), Mekhri, Beguborlik, SABO, PIASC, KRIDI, Mekhr Tayanchi, UNESCO Youth Club, Kokand Children's Club, Shygiz Children's Club Kukus, Mothers and Daughters, Bolalar va Kattalar Children's Club, Save the Children (UK), and UNICEF, *Supplementary NGO Report*, 33.

⁴³⁸⁸ Cango.net, *The Situation with Child Labour is Unlikely to Change in the Foreseeable Future*.

⁴³⁸⁹ *Ibid.*

⁴³⁹⁰ U.S. Embassy- Tashkent, *reporting*, December 20, 2006.

⁴³⁹¹ Study by Mekhr Tayanchi (Support of Love) as cited by Uzbekistan Daily Digest, "Homeless Children Become Focus of Concern in Uzbekistan", September 19, 2003; available from <http://www.eurasianet.org/resource/uzbekistan/hypermail/200307/0023.shtml>.

⁴³⁹² U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Uzbekistan," Section 5, 6d. See also U.S. Embassy- Tashkent, *reporting*, August 26, 2005. See also U.S. Embassy- Tashkent, Email Communication to USDOL official, August 1, 2007.

⁴³⁹³ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Uzbekistan," Section 6d. See also U.S. Embassy- Tashkent, *reporting*, December 20, 2006.

⁴³⁹⁴ U.S. Embassy- Tashkent, *reporting*, October 16, 2002. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Uzbekistan," Section 6d.

Children ages 14 to 16 may only work 12 hours per week while school is in session and 24 hours per week during school vacation. Children 16 to 18 years may only work 18 hours per week when school is in session and 36 hours per week during school vacations.⁴³⁹⁵ In addition to establishing limited work hours for minors, the law prohibits children under 18 years from working in unfavorable labor conditions.⁴³⁹⁶ Prior to employment, children under 18 years must undergo a medical examination to establish their suitability for their chosen work and must repeat the examination at the employer's expense once a year until they become 18.⁴³⁹⁷

The law prohibits forced labor, except when fulfilling a court sentence.⁴³⁹⁸ The law prohibits profit from promoting prostitution or maintaining brothels. Penalties increase when a child is involved, which can result in jail sentences of 5 to 10 years.⁴³⁹⁹ The law prohibits trafficking, with higher penalties when victims are taken out of the country. The penalty for recruitment for trafficking is 6 months to 3 years in prison. Trafficking of children outside the country is punishable with 5 to 8 years in prison.⁴⁴⁰⁰

The law does not provide jurisdiction for inspectors from the Ministry of Labor and Social Protection to focus on child labor enforcement.⁴⁴⁰¹ Instead, the Prosecutor General and the Ministry of Interior's criminal investigators are responsible for the enforcement of child labor laws. While enforcement appears effective in deterring child labor in the formal sector, the U.S. Department of State reports that it is not effective in regulating children's work in family-based employment and in the agricultural sectors. There were no reports of enforcement efforts in the cotton industry.⁴⁴⁰² An anti-trafficking unit of the Ministry of Internal Affairs investigates trafficking-related crimes.⁴⁴⁰³ The government has investigated numerous trafficking-related crimes through the Ministry of Internal Affairs (MVD) Anti-Trafficking in Persons (TIP) Unit and the Prosecutor's Office.⁴⁴⁰⁴

There were no reports of inspections resulting in legal proceedings or administrative penalties for violations of domestic child labor laws.⁴⁴⁰⁵ Allegations have been made against some local

⁴³⁹⁵ U.S. Embassy- Tashkent, Email Communication to USDOL Official, August 1, 2007.

⁴³⁹⁶ UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Initial Reports of States Parties Due in 1996*, CRC/C/41/Add.8, prepared by Government of Uzbekistan, pursuant to Article 44 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, December 27, 1999, paras. 315 and 318; available from [http://www.unhchr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/898586b1dc7b4043c1256a450044f331/aacfcf7e3feaabf2c1256a4d00391fbc/\\$FILE/G0140749.pdf](http://www.unhchr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/898586b1dc7b4043c1256a450044f331/aacfcf7e3feaabf2c1256a4d00391fbc/$FILE/G0140749.pdf). See also International Crisis Group, *The Curse of Cotton: Central Asia's Destructive Monoculture*, 18.

⁴³⁹⁷ U.S. Embassy- Tashkent, Email Communication to USDOL Official, August 1, 2007.

⁴³⁹⁸ *Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan*, 1992, article 37.

⁴³⁹⁹ Penal Code Clauses 121 and 127 as cited by Interpol, *Legislation of Interpol Member States on Sexual Offences Against Children- Uzbekistan*, accessed October 22, 2006; available from <http://www.interpol.int/Public/Children/SexualAbuse/NationalLaws/csaUzbekistan.asp>.

⁴⁴⁰⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Uzbekistan," Section 5.

⁴⁴⁰¹ U.S. Embassy- Tashkent, *reporting*, December 20, 2006.

⁴⁴⁰² *Ibid.* See also U.S. Embassy- Tashkent, *reporting*, August 26, 2005. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Uzbekistan," Section 6d.

⁴⁴⁰³ U.S. Embassy- Tashkent, *reporting*, August 26, 2005.

⁴⁴⁰⁴ U.S. Embassy- Tashkent, *reporting*, December 20, 2006.

⁴⁴⁰⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Uzbekistan," Section 6d.

officials working for the Ministry of the Interior, customs, and border guards for accepting bribes and assisting traffickers.⁴⁴⁰⁶

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

Although the Government of Uzbekistan does not have a comprehensive policy on the eradication of child labor, it publicly acknowledged the existence of child labor in Uzbekistan in 2006.⁴⁴⁰⁷ Representatives from the Government of Uzbekistan are working with neighboring countries to gather information about the child labor situation in Central Asia. USDOL has provided funding to ILO-IPEC for a USD 2.5 million sub-regional project to enhance the capacity of national institutions to eliminate the worst forms of child labor in Uzbekistan and to share information and experiences across the sub-region, including in Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, and Tajikistan.⁴⁴⁰⁸ The German Government has provided funding to ILO-IPEC for a EURO 1 million sub-regional project to combat the worst forms of child labor through education and youth employment in Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, and Tajikistan.⁴⁴⁰⁹

In 2006, ILO-IPEC launched a social dialogue process on child labor through the creation of a multi-agency government working group that included: UNICEF; Cabinet of Ministers Social Complex; Ministries of Labor, Health, Public Education, Higher and Specialized Education; National Human Rights Center; Children's Fund; and trade unions. The working group met six times in 2006 and once in 2007 during this publication's reporting period. Topics discussed included cotton picking and street children.⁴⁴¹⁰ In cooperation with ILO-IPEC, the Cabinet of Ministers adopted a four-year national action plan on securing child welfare in Uzbekistan in January 2006. The national action plan includes reviewing the ILO conventions 138 and 182 for ratification and combating child labor in agriculture through revising current practices and establishing a child labor monitoring system.⁴⁴¹¹

The government operates an inter-agency working group to combat trafficking in persons, and actively cooperates with local NGOs and the OSCE on anti-trafficking training of law enforcement and consular officials.⁴⁴¹² Through U.S. government programs and non-governmental organizations, Uzbek consular officials abroad and domestic law enforcement officials have received training in dealing with trafficking victims. The government also works with Mahalla organizations, a pre-Soviet system of community-based management and social service provision, to protect children at the community level through a neighborhood

⁴⁴⁰⁶ See also U.S. Department of State, "Uzbekistan (Tier 3)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/>.

⁴⁴⁰⁷ Ibid.

⁴⁴⁰⁸ ILO-IPEC, *CAR Capacity Building Project: Regional Program on the Worst Forms of Child Labour*, project document, RER/04/P54/USA, Geneva, September 2004, vii.

⁴⁴⁰⁹ ILO-IPEC, *Combating the Worst Forms of Child Labor in Central Asia through Education and Youth Employment (EYE): An Innovative Regional Program*, project document, Geneva, 2005, cover page, 42.

⁴⁴¹⁰ U.S. Embassy- Tashkent, Email Communication to USDOL Official, August 1, 2007.

⁴⁴¹¹ Ibid.

⁴⁴¹² U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Uzbekistan," Section 5.

monitoring mechanism. The government also has an education campaign through the Mahallas to publicize the dangers and eliminate hazardous conditions for minors.⁴⁴¹³

The government allows the IOM to meet returning children rescued from trafficking at the airport, provide assistance, and help them with their preliminary statements to the Interior Ministry.⁴⁴¹⁴ In cooperation with the IOM, the government is engaged in a research study to determine the extent of trafficking in Uzbekistan and participates in a trafficking prevention campaign and a law enforcement training program.⁴⁴¹⁵ It also actively supported a public awareness campaign including posters on buses, subway cars, and at passport offices as well as advertising on state-controlled television and radio.⁴⁴¹⁶ The Cabinet of Ministers approved the ILO Red Card to Child Labor campaign and public service announcements aired on television stations in July 2006.⁴⁴¹⁷ Numerous newspaper articles and television programs on victims of trafficking, including minors, have appeared in state controlled media.⁴⁴¹⁸

UNICEF's HIV/AIDS prevention project supports existing government efforts to improve awareness of healthy lifestyles for at-risk adolescents including children engaged in sex work.⁴⁴¹⁹ In cooperation with UNICEF in 2007, the government has begun a program to research internal trafficking of children in Uzbekistan.⁴⁴²⁰

⁴⁴¹³ U.S. Embassy- Tashkent, *reporting, December 20, 2006.*

⁴⁴¹⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Uzbekistan," Section 5.

⁴⁴¹⁵ IOM, *Combating Trafficking in Persons in Central Asia: Prevention, Prosecution, Protection (ASPPP)*, accessed June 15, 2005.

⁴⁴¹⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Uzbekistan." See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Uzbekistan," Section 5. See also U.S. Embassy- Tashkent, *reporting, December 20, 2006.*

⁴⁴¹⁷ *Ibid.*

⁴⁴¹⁸ U.S. Embassy- Tashkent, *reporting, December 20, 2006.*

⁴⁴¹⁹ *Ibid.*

⁴⁴²⁰ U.S. Embassy- Tashkent, Email Communication to USDOL Official, August 1, 2007.

Vanuatu

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

No changes have been recorded since the last reporting period regarding the incidence and nature of child labor in Vanuatu.*

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:	118% ⁴⁴²¹
Net primary enrollment rate in 2004:	94% ⁴⁴²²
Ratified Convention 182:	8/28/2006 ⁴⁴²³

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

No changes have been recorded since the last reporting period regarding child labor laws and enforcement in Vanuatu.*

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

No changes have been recorded since the last reporting period regarding government policies and programs in Vanuatu.*

* For more information, please refer to the U.S. Department of Labor's 2005 Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labor.

⁴⁴²¹ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

⁴⁴²² UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Rate. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

⁴⁴²³ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, accessed February 9, 2007; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/docs/declAS.htm>.

Venezuela

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2003, approximately 11.4 percent of boys and 6.6 percent of girls ages 10 to 14 were working in Venezuela. The majority of working children were found in the services sector (63.6 percent), followed by the agricultural sector (25.9 percent), manufacturing (8.1 percent), and other sectors (2.4 percent).⁴⁴³⁵ Most children work in the informal sector.⁴⁴³⁶

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children ages 10-14 estimated as working in 2003:	9.1% ⁴⁴²⁴
Minimum age for admission to work:	14% ⁴⁴²⁵
Age to which education is compulsory:	Approximately age 15 ⁴⁴²⁶
Free public education:	Yes ⁴⁴²⁷
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:	105% ⁴⁴²⁸
Net primary enrollment rate in 2004:	92% ⁴⁴²⁹
Percent of children 10-14 attending school in 2003:	94.4% ⁴⁴³⁰
As of 2003 percentage of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	91% ⁴⁴³¹
Ratified Convention 138:	7/15/1987 ⁴⁴³²
Ratified Convention 182:	10/26/2005 ⁴⁴³³
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Yes ⁴⁴³⁴
*Must pay for school supplies and related items.	

⁴⁴²⁴ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, October 7 2005.

⁴⁴²⁵ Government of Venezuela, *Ley Orgánica para la Protección del Niño y del Adolescente*, (October 2, 1998), Articles 96; available from <http://www.fiscalia.gov.ve/legislacion.asp>.

⁴⁴²⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Venezuela," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/>. See also UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Ending Age of Compulsory Education*, accessed March 8, 2007; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

⁴⁴²⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Venezuela," Section 5. See also UNESCO, *Education for All Global Monitoring Report: 2006*, Paris 2005, 84; available from http://portal.unesco.org/education/en/ev.php-URL_ID=43283&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html.

⁴⁴²⁸ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

⁴⁴²⁹ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Rate. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

⁴⁴³⁰ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

⁴⁴³¹ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Survival Rate to Grade 5. Total*, accessed December 18, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

⁴⁴³² ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, [online] [cited October 20, 2006]; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/newratframeE.htm>.

⁴⁴³³ Ibid.

⁴⁴³⁴ ILO-IPEC, *All About IPEC: Programme Countries*, [online] 2001 [cited March 7, 2007]; available from http://www.ilo.org/public/english/standards/ipecc/about/countries/t_country.htm.

⁴⁴³⁵ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

⁴⁴³⁶ U.S. Embassy- Caracas, *reporting*, December 14, 2006.

Venezuela is a source, transit, and destination country for children trafficked for the purposes of sexual exploitation and forced labor.⁴⁴³⁷

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum employment age at 14, with exceptions. Children ages 12 and 13 can work with permission from the Protection Council if the work is not dangerous and does not obstruct education.⁴⁴³⁸ Fines are established for employing any minor from age 8 to age 12, and employing or profiting from the employment of a child from 12 to 15 years of age who does not have authorization to work. Employing a child younger than 8 years of age is punishable by 1 to 3 years of incarceration.⁴⁴³⁹

Minors are prohibited from work that poses risks to their development.⁴⁴⁴⁰ They are prohibited from work in mines, smelting factories, and in places where alcohol is sold, with the exception of hotels, restaurants, planes, and other similar establishments.⁴⁴⁴¹ Children under age 16 may not work more than 30 hours per week. The Children's and Adolescence Protection Code (LOPNA) limits minors' working hours to 6 per day, however the Labor Code allows those under 16 to work 8 hours per day if the work is intermittent or requires only the minor's presence.⁴⁴⁴² Rest periods are established for children under 16 and for minors working as domestic servants. Minors are prohibited from working without authorization after 7 p.m. and before 6 a.m.⁴⁴⁴³

Working adolescents are required to be registered with the Protection Council and the social security system, are to be provided with working credentials and must have medical examinations and a medical certificate.⁴⁴⁴⁴ Employing or profiting from the employment of a minor in work indicated by their medical exam as detrimental is punishable by 6 months to 2 years of incarceration.⁴⁴⁴⁵ Fines are established for violations of the registration, medical, and social security system requirements, as well as for employers that impede child labor inspectors.⁴⁴⁴⁶ Minors may not be paid by piece or less than other workers for equal work.⁴⁴⁴⁷

⁴⁴³⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Venezuela (Tier 3)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/>.

⁴⁴³⁸ Government of Venezuela, *Ley Orgánica para la Protección del Niño y del Adolescente*, Articles 2 and 96.

⁴⁴³⁹ *Ibid.*, Articles 238, 239 and 257.

⁴⁴⁴⁰ Government of Venezuela, *Ley Orgánica del Trabajo*, 5.152, (June 19, 1997), Article 250; available from <http://www.mintra.gov.ve/>. See also Government of Venezuela, *Constitución de la República Bolivariana de Venezuela*, 1999, Article 89; available from <http://pdba.georgetown.edu/Constitutions/constudies.html>.

⁴⁴⁴¹ Government of Venezuela, *Ley Orgánica del Trabajo*, 249-250.

⁴⁴⁴² Government of Venezuela, *Ley Orgánica para la Protección del Niño y del Adolescente*, Article 102. See also Government of Venezuela, *Ley Orgánica del Trabajo*, Article 255.

⁴⁴⁴³ Government of Venezuela, *Ley Orgánica del Trabajo*, Articles 256 and 257. See also Government of Venezuela, *Ley Orgánica para la Protección del Niño y del Adolescente*, Article 113.

⁴⁴⁴⁴ Government of Venezuela, *Ley Orgánica para la Protección del Niño y del Adolescente*, Articles 96, 98, 99, 104, 105, 110, and 111. See also Government of Venezuela, *Ley Orgánica del Trabajo*, 252 and 253.

⁴⁴⁴⁵ Government of Venezuela, *Ley Orgánica para la Protección del Niño y del Adolescente*, Article 256.

⁴⁴⁴⁶ *Ibid.*, Articles 240-243.

⁴⁴⁴⁷ Government of Venezuela, *Ley Orgánica del Trabajo*, Articles 258 and 259. See also Government of Venezuela, *Salario Mínimo Obligatorio al partir del 1° de Septiembre de 2006*, Decreto N° 4.446, (April 25, 2006), Article 2; available from <http://www.mintra.gov.ve/>. See also Government of Venezuela, *Ley Orgánica para la Protección del Niño y del Adolescente*, Articles 112.

Employers must maintain a registry of basic information regarding minor employees and must notify designated authorities if they hire a minor as a domestic servant.⁴⁴⁴⁸ Labor Code provisions apply to minors working under apprenticeships.⁴⁴⁴⁹ The government is responsible for providing working minors with appropriate educational programs.⁴⁴⁵⁰ The executive branch reserves the right to adjust the minimum age for dangerous work.⁴⁴⁵¹ The ILO CEACR has requested that the government ensure that minors are not authorized to engage in hazardous work, except under certain circumstances involving training for children older than 16.⁴⁴⁵²

The sexual exploitation of children is prohibited and is punishable by 3 to 8 years of incarceration.⁴⁴⁵³ Inducing, supporting, or facilitating the prostitution of a minor to another party may result in 3 to 18 months of incarceration. If the crime is done repeatedly, or for profit, it is punishable by 3 to 6 years of incarceration.⁴⁴⁵⁴ Punishments for inducing a minor into prostitution are increased to up to 5 years of incarceration if various aggravating circumstances occur.⁴⁴⁵⁵ Prison terms for the forced prostitution of a relative range from 4 to 6 years.⁴⁴⁵⁶ Punishments for adult perpetrator of crimes, including those crimes involving illegal drugs, are increased if a minor participated in the commission of the crime.⁴⁴⁵⁷ The law prohibits and establishes sentences of 1 to 3 years of incarceration for forced child labor, and establishes prison terms of 6 to 12 years for slavery, situations similar to slavery, and slave trafficking.⁴⁴⁵⁸ Child trafficking by members of organized groups is punishable by 10 to 18 years of incarceration.⁴⁴⁵⁹ The illicit movement of children is prohibited, and trafficking may also be punishable under a law that provides punishments of 2 to 6 years of imprisonment for sending a child outside the country for profit, as well as fines for transferring a child to a third party and for transporting a child without authorization either within the country or internationally.⁴⁴⁶⁰ The prison term for profiting from the transfer of a son, daughter, student, or minor in an individual's care to a third party is from 2 to 6 years, and the same punishment applies for offering payment in exchange for a child.⁴⁴⁶¹ Trafficking may also be punishable

⁴⁴⁴⁸ Government of Venezuela, *Ley Orgánica del Trabajo*, Articles 262 and 265. See also Government of Venezuela, *Ley Orgánica para la Protección del Niño y del Adolescente*, Article 108.

⁴⁴⁴⁹ Government of Venezuela, *Ley Orgánica del Trabajo*, Article 266.

⁴⁴⁵⁰ Government of Venezuela, *Ley Orgánica para la Protección del Niño y del Adolescente*, Article 59.

⁴⁴⁵¹ *Ibid.*, Articles 238 and 239.

⁴⁴⁵² ILO, CEACR: *Individual Observation concerning Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138) Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela*, Geneva, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/newcountryframeE.htm>.

⁴⁴⁵³ Government of Venezuela, *Ley Orgánica para la Protección del Niño y del Adolescente*, Articles 33 and 258.

⁴⁴⁵⁴ Government of Venezuela, *Código Penal de Venezuela*, 5.494, (October 20, 2000), Article 382, 389 and 392; available from <http://www.mintra.gov.ve/legal/codigos/penaldevenezuela.htm>.

⁴⁴⁵⁵ *Ibid.*, Articles 388 and 392.

⁴⁴⁵⁶ *Ibid.*, Articles 390 and 392.

⁴⁴⁵⁷ Government of Venezuela, *Ley Orgánica para la Protección del Niño y del Adolescente*, Article 264. See also Government of Venezuela, *Código Penal de Venezuela*, Article 367.

⁴⁴⁵⁸ Government of Venezuela, *Ley Orgánica para la Protección del Niño y del Adolescente*, Articles 38 and 255. See also Government of Venezuela, *Código Penal de Venezuela*, Article 174.

⁴⁴⁵⁹ Government of Venezuela, *Ley Contra la Delincuencia Organizada*, 38.281, (September 27, 2005), Article 16; available from <http://www.asambleanacional.gov.ve/ns2/leyes.asp?id=298>.

⁴⁴⁶⁰ Government of Venezuela, *Ley Orgánica para la Protección del Niño y del Adolescente*, Articles 40, 231, 232 and 266. See also Government of Venezuela, *Constitución de la República Bolivariana de Venezuela*, 1999, Article 54. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Venezuela," Section 5.

⁴⁴⁶¹ Government of Venezuela, *Ley Orgánica para la Protección del Niño y del Adolescente*, Article 267.

under a law that provides prison sentences of 8 to 10 years for human smuggling under circumstances that include when violence, intimidation, or deception are used, with penalties increased if the victim's life, health or integrity is endangered.⁴⁴⁶² The law prohibits child pornography and punishes it with fines and prison sentences of between 3 months and 4 years.⁴⁴⁶³ Producing or selling child pornography may result in prison terms of 16 to 20 years.⁴⁴⁶⁴ Using any form of information technology to depict child pornography is punishable by 4 to 8 years of incarceration, with penalties increased under certain circumstances.⁴⁴⁶⁵ Punishments of 2 to 6 years of incarceration are established for the recruitment of minors into criminal organizations; and the prison sentence ranges for 4 to 8 years if the perpetrator is an authority figure.⁴⁴⁶⁶ The minimum recruitment age for the government armed forces is 18. Secondary students are required to complete 2 years of pre-military instruction.⁴⁴⁶⁷

The U.S. Department of State reports that the Ministry of Labor and the National Institute for minors effectively enforced child labor laws in the formal sector, but less effectively in the informal sector.⁴⁴⁶⁸ The National Protection System for Children and Adolescents includes institutions such as state and local Councils on Children's and Adolescents' Rights that are responsible for monitoring children's rights and Children's and Adolescents' Ombudsmen that are responsible for defending children's rights.⁴⁴⁶⁹ The U.S. Department of State also reports that while the Government of Venezuela has improved its efforts to capture individuals suspected of human trafficking, there were no prosecutions or convictions of traffickers in 2005 and anti-trafficking laws were usually not enforced.⁴⁴⁷⁰

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Ministry of Interior and Justice's Crime Prevention Unit held trainings for government officials that included the theme of trafficking. The government has an anti-trafficking plan and implemented an anti-trafficking awareness raising campaign.⁴⁴⁷¹

⁴⁴⁶² Government of Venezuela, *Ley de Extranjería y Migración*, 37.944, (May 24, 2004), Articles 56-58; available from <http://www.acnur.org/biblioteca/pdf/2867.pdf>.

⁴⁴⁶³ Government of Venezuela, *Ley Orgánica para la Protección del Niño y del Adolescente*, Article 237. See also Government of Venezuela, *Código Penal de Venezuela*, Article 383.

⁴⁴⁶⁴ Government of Venezuela, *Ley Contra la Delincuencia Organizada*, Article 14.

⁴⁴⁶⁵ Government of Venezuela, *Ley sobre Delitos informáticos*, 37.313, (October 30, 2001), Articles 24, 27, and 28; available from <http://www.asambleanacional.gov.ve/ns2/leyes.asp?id=234>.

⁴⁴⁶⁶ Government of Venezuela, *Ley Orgánica para la Protección del Niño y del Adolescente*, Article 265.

⁴⁴⁶⁷ Government of Venezuela, *Ley de Conscripción y Alistamiento Militar*, 2.306, (September 11, 1978), Articles 3, 4, and 71; available from http://www.gobiernoenlinea.ve/legislacion-view/view/ver_legislacion.pag.

⁴⁴⁶⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Venezuela," Section 6d. See also Alejandro Silva and Miliseth Ysea, *245 centros de trabajo censados. Las Inspecciones de trabajo infantil son un Ejercicio de corresponsabilidad.*, [online] July 15, 2006 [cited October 16, 2006]; available from www.mintra.gov.ve.

⁴⁴⁶⁹ UN Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, *Eighteenth Periodic Reports of States Parties Due in 2004*, prepared by Government of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, CERD/C/476/Add.4, 2004, para. 139, 140, and 142; available from <http://www.unhchr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/documentsfrset?OpenFrameSet>

⁴⁴⁷⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Venezuela."

⁴⁴⁷¹ Ibid.

Yemen

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2001, approximately 27.2 percent of boys and 20.1 percent of girls ages 6 to 14 were working in Yemen.⁴⁴⁸³ Children living in rural areas are more likely to work than are children in urban areas.⁴⁴⁸⁴ Eighty-seven percent of child workers are estimated to work in a family enterprise.⁴⁴⁸⁵ The majority of working children work in

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 6-14 estimated as working in 2001:	23.7% ⁴⁴⁷²
Minimum age of work:	15 ⁴⁴⁷³
Age to which education is compulsory:	15 ⁴⁴⁷⁴
Free public education:	Yes ⁴⁴⁷⁵
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2002:	83% ⁴⁴⁷⁶
Net primary enrollment rate in 2002:	72% ⁴⁴⁷⁷
Percent of children 6-14 attending school in 2001:	52.9% ⁴⁴⁷⁸
As of 2001, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	76% ⁴⁴⁷⁹
Ratified Convention 138:	6/15/00 ⁴⁴⁸⁰
Ratified Convention 182:	6/15/00 ⁴⁴⁸¹
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Yes ⁴⁴⁸²

⁴⁴⁷² UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank Surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, October 7, 2005.

⁴⁴⁷³ U.S. Department of State, "Yemen," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 6d; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2005/61703.htm>.

⁴⁴⁷⁴ *Ibid.*, Section 5.

⁴⁴⁷⁵ *Ibid.*

⁴⁴⁷⁶ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

⁴⁴⁷⁷ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

⁴⁴⁷⁸ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank Surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

⁴⁴⁷⁹ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Survival Rate to Grade 5. Total*, accessed December 18, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

⁴⁴⁸⁰ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, accessed October 18, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/newratframeE.htm>.

⁴⁴⁸¹ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, [online database] 2004 [cited March 12, 2004]; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/newratframeE.htm>.

⁴⁴⁸² ILO, *IPEC Action Against Child Labour: Highlights 2006*, Geneva, February 2007; available from <http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/public/english/standards/ipec/doc-view.cfm?id=3159>.

⁴⁴⁸³ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank Surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

⁴⁴⁸⁴ Republic of Yemen, *Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP): 2003-2005*, May 31, 2002, 11; available from <http://www.imf.org/external/np/prsp/2002/yem/01/053102.pdf>. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Yemen," Section 6d.

⁴⁴⁸⁵ Understanding Children's Work (UCW), *Understanding Children's Work in Yemen*, prepared by ILO, UNICEF, and World Bank, March 2003, 3; available from http://www.ucw-project.org/resources/pdf/yemen/Report_Yemen_draft.pdf.

agricultural sectors, including in the production of *qat* (a mild narcotic found in Yemen).⁴⁴⁸⁶ Children working in agriculture are exposed to hazardous conditions and activities, including the use of pesticides, prolonged exposure to extreme temperatures, the use of heavy equipment, and carrying heavy loads.⁴⁴⁸⁷ Children also work under hazardous conditions as street vendors, beggars, and domestic servants, as well as in the fishing, leather, construction, textile, and automobile repair sectors.⁴⁴⁸⁸ Street children and children employed in domestic service and restaurants are particularly vulnerable to sexual abuse and exploitation.⁴⁴⁸⁹

Children are trafficked internally for sexual exploitation. Saudi Arabia is the primary destination for children trafficked out of the country, where children between 7 and 16 years are forced to work as street beggars. Children trafficked to Saudi Arabia also work as domestic workers, unskilled laborers, or street vendors.⁴⁴⁹⁰ Reports indicate that these children sell such items as flour and basic commodities, as well as *qat*, which is an illegal substance in Saudi Arabia.⁴⁴⁹¹ Press reports allege that approximately 200 children are trafficked out of the country per week.⁴⁴⁹² The minimum age for entering military service is 18 years. However,

⁴⁴⁸⁶ Republic of Yemen, *PRSP*, 11. See also Understanding Children's Work (UCW), *UCW in Yemen*, 2. See also UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Third Periodic Reports of States Parties due in 2003: Yemen*, CRC/C/129/Add.2, prepared by Government of Yemen, pursuant to Article 44 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, December 3, 2004, para 319; available from [http://www.unhcr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/\(Symbol\)/55f20ff8a72f20c0c1256f8800329002?Opendocument](http://www.unhcr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/(Symbol)/55f20ff8a72f20c0c1256f8800329002?Opendocument). See also CHF International, *Alternatives to Combat Child Labor through Education and Sustainable Services in the Middle East and North Africa (ACCESS-MENA)* project document, Silver Spring, MD, January, 2007, 5, 6.

⁴⁴⁸⁷ Understanding Children's Work (UCW), *UCW in Yemen*, 2. See also UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Third Periodic Reports of States Parties*, para 319.

⁴⁴⁸⁸ Understanding Children's Work (UCW), *UCW in Yemen*, 2. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Yemen," Section 6d. See also ILO-IPEC, *Supporting the National Policy and Programme Framework for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour in Lebanon and Yemen: Consolidating Action against the Worst Forms of Child Labour*, project document, RAB/04/P51/USA, Geneva, September 3, 2004, 32. See also CHF International, *Alternatives to Combat Child Labor through Education and Sustainable Services in the Middle East and North Africa (ACCESS-MENA)* 5, 6.

⁴⁴⁸⁹ UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Concluding Observations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child: Yemen*, CRC/C/15/Add.267, prepared by Government of Yemen, pursuant to Article 44 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, September 21, 2005; available from [http://www.unhcr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/\(Symbol\)/1296a4127ff7b38ac1257018002e6633?Opendocument](http://www.unhcr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/(Symbol)/1296a4127ff7b38ac1257018002e6633?Opendocument). See also Understanding Children's Work (UCW), *UCW in Yemen*, 2.

⁴⁴⁹⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Yemen (Tier 2 Watch List)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/65987.htm>. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Yemen," Section 5.

⁴⁴⁹¹ Joseph Risploli, *Feasibility Study on Recovery and Reintegration Schemes for Children Victims of Trafficking: Case Studies of Hajja, Hodeida, and Al Mahweet Governorates*, December 2006; available from http://www.iom.int/jahia/webdav/shared/shared/mainsite/projects/showcase_pdf/ye20061219_rep.pdf. See also Paul Garwood, "Yemen Steps up Fight vs. Child Smuggling," *Associated Press* (Seattle), October 29, 2005; available from http://www.childtrafficking.org/cgi-bin/ct/main.sql?ID=2117&file=view_news.sql&TITLE=-1&TOPIC=-1&YEAR=-1&LISTA=No&GEOG=545&FULL_DETAIL=Yes.

⁴⁴⁹² U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Yemen," Section 5.

children are allowed to carry weapons⁴⁴⁹³ and reportedly participate in ongoing conflicts among tribal groups and in the defense of *qat* fields.⁴⁴⁹⁴

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum working age at 15 years for the private sector and at 18 years for the public sector.⁴⁴⁹⁵ Children between 12 and 15 years may work by special permit.⁴⁴⁹⁶ The law prohibits all types of exploitation of children, as well as hazardous or socially damaging working conditions. Moreover, employers must grant every youth a 30-day annual leave for every 12-month period of labor completed. Neither the child nor the parent may waive this annual leave. Further, employers are required to pay young persons not less than two-thirds of the minimum wage provided to an adult for the specific occupation performed. Payments must be made directly to the child. The child labor provisions do not apply to young persons working under the supervision of a guardian if the work is performed under suitable health and social conditions.⁴⁴⁹⁷ Penalties for non-compliance with child labor laws include fines and up to 3 months of imprisonment.⁴⁴⁹⁸

Forced or compulsory labor is prohibited, including that performed by children.⁴⁴⁹⁹ Children under 18 are prohibited from entering the government armed forces.⁴⁵⁰⁰ Although Yemeni law does not specifically prohibit trafficking in persons, there are provisions in the Penal Code to prosecute and punish traffickers.⁴⁵⁰¹ The law stipulates a prison sentence of 10 years for "anyone who buys, sells, or gives as a present, or deals in human beings; and anyone who brings into the country or exports from it a human being with the intent of taking advantage of him." If the offense is committed against a child, the prison term can be extended to 15 years. Kidnapping is punishable by up to 7 years in prison; kidnapping cases involving sexual assault or murder are punishable by the death penalty.⁴⁵⁰²

The Ministry of Labor's Child Labor Unit is responsible for enforcing child labor laws, but according to the U.S. Department of State, because of a lack of resources, the government's

⁴⁴⁹³ UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Consideration of Reports of States Parties (Continued): Third Periodic Report of Yemen*, CRC/C/SR.1049, prepared by Government of Yemen, pursuant to Article 44 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, June 1, 2005, para 41; available from [http://www.unhchr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/\(Symbol\)/43ba7a8950f906ecc125708400311306?Opendocument](http://www.unhchr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/(Symbol)/43ba7a8950f906ecc125708400311306?Opendocument).

⁴⁴⁹⁴ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Yemen," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, London, 2004; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=956. See also Understanding Children's Work (UCW), *UCW in Yemen*, 2.

⁴⁴⁹⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Yemen," Section 6d.

⁴⁴⁹⁶ *Ibid.*

⁴⁴⁹⁷ *Labor Code, Act No. 5 of 1995*, (1995), Articles 49-53; available from <http://natlex.ilo.org/txt/E95YEM01.htm>.

⁴⁴⁹⁸ Understanding Children's Work (UCW), *UCW in Yemen*, 31.

⁴⁴⁹⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Yemen," Section 6c.

⁴⁵⁰⁰ Understanding Children's Work (UCW), *UCW in Yemen*, 2. See also Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Global Report 2004."

⁴⁵⁰¹ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Yemen." See also U.S. Embassy- Sana'a, *reporting, March 15, 2005*.

⁴⁵⁰² U.S. Embassy- Sana'a, *reporting, March 15, 2005*.

enforcement of these provisions is limited, especially in rural and remote areas.⁴⁵⁰³ Prostitution laws have been used to detain and prosecute child victims of commercial sexual exploitation.⁴⁵⁰⁴ The government increased the number of convictions for child trafficking in 2005, the most recent date such information is available, from 2 successful convictions from April 2004 to March 2005 to 19 convictions from April 2005 to March 2006.⁴⁵⁰⁵ The arrests were attributed to an increase in patrolling on the Saudi Arabian border.⁴⁵⁰⁶

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Government of Yemen is implementing policies to curb child labor as outlined in the National Strategy to Combat Child Labor.⁴⁵⁰⁷ The Ministry of Youth & Sports' National Strategy for Integrating Youth into Development includes strategic actions to combat child labor, such as advocating for the enforcement of laws and legislation that prohibit child labor, and working against any exploitation of young people.⁴⁵⁰⁸ The Ministry of Human Rights operates a hotline to receive complaints concerning the exploitation, trafficking, and sexual or other abuse of children;⁴⁵⁰⁹ it has also circulated information on the hotline in areas where child trafficking is prevalent.⁴⁵¹⁰ In August 2006, the government presented the Third Five-Year Plan for Socioeconomic Development (2006-2010) that includes a chapter directly addressing child labor through the Childhood and Youth Strategy.⁴⁵¹¹

The Government of Yemen is participating in a USDOL-funded USD 3 million regional project implemented by ILO-IPEC that aims to promote the collection and analysis of child labor information; to strengthen enforcement and monitoring mechanisms; to build capacity; to raise awareness of the negative consequences of child labor; and to withdraw 3,400 and prevent 3,500 children from engaging in the worst forms of child labor.⁴⁵¹² The government is also participating in a USD 8 million sub-regional project funded by USDOL and implemented by CHF International to combat child labor through education in Lebanon and Yemen. The project aims to withdraw 4,305 children and prevent 3,195 children from entering exploitive labor.⁴⁵¹³

⁴⁵⁰³ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Yemen," Section 6d. See also U.S. Embassy- Sana'a, *reporting*, August 23, 2004. See also Understanding Children's Work (UCW), *UCW in Yemen*.

⁴⁵⁰⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Yemen."

⁴⁵⁰⁵ *Ibid.*

⁴⁵⁰⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Yemen," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2005*, Washington, DC, March 8, 2006, Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2005/61703.htm>.

⁴⁵⁰⁷ UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Third Periodic Reports of States Parties*, para 8.

⁴⁵⁰⁸ Ministry of Youth and Sport Republic of Yemen, *The National Strategy for Integrating Youth Into Development, Second Edition*, 2002, 20.

⁴⁵⁰⁹ UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Consideration of Reports*, para 56.

⁴⁵¹⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Yemen."

⁴⁵¹¹ ILO-IPEC, *Supporting the National Policy and Programme Framework for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour in Lebanon and Yemen*, technical progress report, RAB/04/P51/USA, September 2006, 3, 4.

⁴⁵¹² ILO-IPEC, *Supporting the National Policy and Programme Framework*, project document, 28, 35-38, 49.

⁴⁵¹³ CHF International, *Alternatives to Combat Child Labor through Education and Sustainable Services in the Middle East and North Africa (ACCESS-MENA)* cover page, 12.

The Government of Yemen is increasing its efforts to combat trafficking in children.⁴⁵¹⁴ Yemeni and Saudi officials met to discuss combating child trafficking for the first time in June 2006. Border and airport officials were trained to identify and prevent child trafficking by the government in cooperation with UNICEF and the IOM.⁴⁵¹⁵ The government is also conducting an information campaign to raise awareness among parents and community leaders about the dangers of child trafficking, and it is operating a hotline to report child trafficking.⁴⁵¹⁶ The Yemeni Government, in cooperation with UNICEF and ILO-IPEC, opened a reception center at the Haradh border with Saudi Arabia to receive, rehabilitate, and educate repatriated child trafficking victims, which received more than 300 children during its first 6 months.⁴⁵¹⁷

⁴⁵¹⁴ UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Consideration of Reports*, para 22. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Yemen," Section 5.

⁴⁵¹⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Yemen," Section 5.

⁴⁵¹⁶ *Ibid.* See also U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Yemen."

⁴⁵¹⁷ UN Commission on Human Rights, *Report of the Special Rapporteur on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography: Addendum*, E/CN.4/2006/67/Add.1, prepared by Government of Yemen, pursuant to Sixty-second session, March 2006.

Zambia

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 1999, approximately 11.5 percent of boys and 10.8 percent of girls ages 5 to 14 were working in Zambia. The majority of working children in Zambia, or approximately 90.1 percent, are found in the agricultural sector, followed by approximately 9.1 percent in services, 0.5 percent in manufacturing, and 0.3 percent in other sectors.⁴⁵²⁹ Children work in agriculture, domestic

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 1999:	11.2% ⁴⁵¹⁸
Minimum age for admission to work:	15 ⁴⁵¹⁹
Age to which education is compulsory:	Not compulsory ⁴⁵²⁰
Free public education:	Yes ^{4521*}
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:	99% ⁴⁵²²
Net primary enrollment rate in 2004:	80% ⁴⁵²³
Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 1999:	52.8% ⁴⁵²⁴
As of 2001, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	98% ⁴⁵²⁵
Ratified Convention 138:	2/9/1976 ⁴⁵²⁶
Ratified Convention 182:	12/10/2001 ⁴⁵²⁷
ILO-IPEC Participating Country:	Yes ⁴⁵²⁸
*Must pay for school supplies and related items.	

⁴⁵¹⁸ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, March 1, 2007.

⁴⁵¹⁹ Government of Zambia, *Constitution of Zambia*, Article 24; available from http://www.oefre.unibe.ch/law/icl/za00000_.html. See also Government of Zambia, *Employment of Young Persons and Children Act (Amendment)*, 2004, Article 5, Section 4A. See also USAID official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, June 15, 2007.

⁴⁵²⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Zambia," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78764.htm>.

⁴⁵²¹ Ibid.

⁴⁵²² UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

⁴⁵²³ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Rate. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

⁴⁵²⁴ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

⁴⁵²⁵ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Survival Rate to Grade 5. Total*, accessed December 18, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

⁴⁵²⁶ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, accessed September 25, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/docs/declAFpr.htm>.

⁴⁵²⁷ Ibid.

⁴⁵²⁸ ILO-IPEC, *IPEC Action Against Child Labour, Highlights 2006*, Geneva, October 2006; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ippec/prod/eng/20061019_Implementationreport_eng_Web.pdf.

⁴⁵²⁹ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

service, and transportation.⁴⁵³⁰ In urban areas, children work in street vending.⁴⁵³¹ Children also work in hazardous industries and occupations, including stone crushing, construction, and mining.⁴⁵³²

It is estimated that there are approximately 20,000 to 30,000 street children throughout the country.⁴⁵³⁴ Commercial sexual exploitation of children is widespread in Zambia.⁴⁵³⁵ Zambian children are reportedly trafficked for commercial sexual exploitation, agricultural labor, and domestic servitude.⁴⁵³⁶

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum age for employment at 15 years.⁴⁵³⁷ The law prohibits the worst forms of child labor including child prostitution, slavery in all of its forms, military conscription, and work harmful to the safety, health, or morals of children and young people.⁴⁵³⁸ However, children between 13 and 15 years are permitted to perform light work under certain conditions.⁴⁵³⁹ The law defines a child as a person under 15 years; a "young person" is defined as a person between 15 and 18 years.⁴⁵⁴⁰ A person violating these provisions is subject to imprisonment for up to 3 years.⁴⁵⁴¹ In addition, the law makes it a felony for any person to sexually harass a child in the workplace or in a learning institution, with a minimum sentence of 3 years in prison for violators.⁴⁵⁴²

⁴⁵³⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Zambia," Section 6d.

⁴⁵³¹ Ibid.

⁴⁵³² Ibid. See also ILO-IPEC and Republic of Zambia Central Statistics Office, *Zambia 1999 Child Labor Survey: Country Report*, ILO-IPEC, Lusaka, 2001, Tables 4.7 and 4.15. See also Ministry of Labour and Social Security of Zambia official, *Efforts to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour in Zambia*, Letter to USDOL official, June 6, 2001. See also U.S. Embassy- Lusaka, reporting, August 19, 2003.

⁴⁵³³ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Zambia," Section 6d. See also ILO, *Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations: Individual Observation concerning Convention No. 138, Minimum Age, 1973 Zambia (ratification: 1976)* Geneva, 2004; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/cgi-lex/pdconv.pl?host=status01&textbase=iloeng&document=7594&chapter=6&query=Zambia%40ref&highlight=>.

⁴⁵³⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Zambia," Section 5.

⁴⁵³⁵ Ibid. See also Integrated Regional Information Networks, "Zambia: Street Kids Open Their Minds to Govt Plan", IRINnews.org, [online], March 27, 2006 [cited October 16, 2006].

⁴⁵³⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Zambia (Tier 2 Watch List)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/65990.htm>. See also U.S. Embassy- Lusaka, reporting, February 26, 2007.

⁴⁵³⁷ Government of Zambia, *Constitution of Zambia, 1991*, Article 24. See also Government of Zambia, *Employment of Young Persons and Children Act (Amendment)*, Article 5, Section 4A.

⁴⁵³⁸ Government of Zambia, *Employment of Young Persons and Children Act (Amendment)*, Para 3b.

⁴⁵³⁹ Ibid., Para. 5A2.

⁴⁵⁴⁰ Ibid., Paras. 3a and 3b. See also Government of Zambia, *Employment of Young Persons and Children Act (Chapter 274 of the Laws of Zambia)*, Part I, Para. 2; available from <http://annualreview.law.harvard.edu/population/countries/zambia/THE%20EMPLOYMENT%20OF%20YOUNG%20PERSONS%20AND%20CHILDREN%20ACT.htm>.

⁴⁵⁴¹ Government of Zambia, *Employment of Young Persons and Children Act (Amendment)*, Para. 5A4.

⁴⁵⁴² U.S. Embassy- Lusaka, reporting, January 17, 2007.

The law prohibits children who are “under the apparent age of 18” from being recruited into the military without the consent of a parent, guardian, or local District Secretary.⁴⁵⁴³ The UN Committee on the Rights of the Child voiced concern that the law is stated in terms of “apparent age,” which could indirectly contribute to exploitive child labor in the form of underage recruitment.⁴⁵⁴⁴ Although Zambia does not have a comprehensive trafficking law, the law prohibits forced labor and trafficking of children.⁴⁵⁴⁵ The law prescribes a penalty of 20 years to life in prison for trafficking a child, but does not provide a definition of trafficking.⁴⁵⁴⁶

The Ministry of Labor and Social Security (MLSS) is responsible for enforcing labor laws,⁴⁵⁴⁷ and has established a child labor unit.⁴⁵⁴⁸ The MLSS conducts inspections of workplaces and investigates child labor complaints.⁴⁵⁴⁹ The law gives labor inspectors the authority to enter households and farms in order to investigate potential child labor violations. The law also allows the MLSS to bring child labor charges, which can result in a fine or imprisonment.⁴⁵⁵⁰ In 2006, the government nearly doubled the amount allocated to the child labor unit of the MLSS.⁴⁵⁵¹ However, the U.S. Department of State reports that resources are still insufficient, which hinders the government’s enforcement capacity.⁴⁵⁵² In January 2007, the High Court found a man guilty of trafficking for attempting to sell his son; this conviction was the first under Zambia’s trafficking law enacted in 2005.⁴⁵⁵³

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The government included efforts to eliminate and monitor exploitive child labor in its national development plan that was finalized in June 2006.⁴⁵⁵⁴ The Government of Zambia developed a strategy to counter trafficking through awareness raising, legal reform, and research; it sought international funding to support these activities.⁴⁵⁵⁵ The government continued to provide awareness and training activities for officials tasked with enforcing child labor laws and began to train five labor inspectors as prosecutors.⁴⁵⁵⁶

⁴⁵⁴³ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, “Zambia,” in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, London, 2004; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=966.

⁴⁵⁴⁴ Ibid.

⁴⁵⁴⁵ Government of Zambia, *Constitution of Zambia, 1991*, Articles 14, 24.

⁴⁵⁴⁶ U.S. Department of State, “Country Reports- 2006: Zambia,” Section 5.

⁴⁵⁴⁷ U.S. Embassy- Lusaka, *reporting, January 17, 2007*. See also U.S. Embassy- Lusaka, *reporting, August 19, 2003*.

⁴⁵⁴⁸ U.S. Embassy- Lusaka, *reporting, August 19, 2003*. See also Ministry of Labour and Social Security of Zambia official, Letter to USDOL official, June 6, 2001.

⁴⁵⁴⁹ U.S. Embassy- Lusaka, *reporting, January 17, 2007*. See also U.S. Embassy- Lusaka, *reporting, August 19, 2003*.

⁴⁵⁵⁰ U.S. Department of State, “Country Reports- 2006: Zambia.” See also U.S. Embassy- Lusaka, *reporting, August 28, 2005*.

⁴⁵⁵¹ U.S. Department of State, “Country Reports- 2006: Zambia,” Section 6d.

⁴⁵⁵² Ibid.

⁴⁵⁵³ U.S. Embassy- Lusaka, *reporting, February 26, 2007*.

⁴⁵⁵⁴ Government of the Republic of Zambia, *Fifth National Development Plan*, Lusaka, June 2006, 173-174; available from <http://www.cspr.org.zm/Reports&Updates/FNDP.pdf>.

⁴⁵⁵⁵ U.S. Department of State, “Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Zambia.”

⁴⁵⁵⁶ U.S. Department of State, “Country Reports- 2006: Zambia,” Section 6d.

The Zambian government is collaborating with Jesus Cares Ministries on the second phase of a USD 750,000 USDOL-funded Child Labor Education Initiative project that aims to withdraw and prevent 3,600 children from engaging in exploitive work through the provision of educational services.⁴⁵⁵⁷ In 2006, USDOL awarded ILO-IPEC a USD 3.92 million grant to assist the government with preparing a national Timebound Program against the worst forms of child labor.⁴⁵⁵⁸ The government is participating in a USDOL funded, ILO-IPEC USD 3 million program to combat and prevent HIV/AIDS-induced child labor in Uganda and Zambia.⁴⁵⁵⁹ The project aims to implement education and skills training opportunities for 3,600 children withdrawn from child labor and to prevent children from entering work situations through community-based social protection schemes.⁴⁵⁶⁰ The government also participated in a USDOL funded ILO-IPEC USD 5.3 million project to build the capacity of governments in Anglophone Africa, including Zambia, to withdraw and prevent children from the worst forms of child labor.⁴⁵⁶¹ Approximately 3,643 children in Zambia were withdrawn or prevented from the worst forms of child labor during the life of the project, which ended in July 2006.⁴⁵⁶²

ILO-IPEC is also working with several African governments, including Zambia, on a USD 1.53 million, Canadian-funded project to enhance skill training to combat the worst forms of child labor in the urban informal sector.⁴⁵⁶³ In addition, the European Economic Community granted USD 257,000 to ILO-IPEC to conduct a study from July to December 2006 on the scale and nature of child trafficking in Zambia.⁴⁵⁶⁴

The government operates two camps for withdrawn and rehabilitated street children, and removed approximately 200 children as of the end of 2006.⁴⁵⁶⁵ The government is also implementing a program that provides education and skills training for children who have been removed from the streets, including prostitutes and older youth.⁴⁵⁶⁶ The government continues to work with NGOs to relocate street children and place them in educational settings.⁴⁵⁶⁷ It also continues to undertake awareness-raising activities to sensitize lawmakers, teachers, and trade union officials about child labor.⁴⁵⁶⁸ The government has sponsored efforts,

⁴⁵⁵⁷ USDOL, *Cooperative Agreement: Combating Exploitive Child Labor through Education in Zambia*, Washington D.C., September 29, 2005.

⁴⁵⁵⁸ ILO-IPEC, *Support to the Development and Implementation of Timebound Measures Against the WFCL in Zambia*, project document, ZAM/06/P50/USA, Geneva, September 14, 2006, 5.

⁴⁵⁵⁹ ILO-IPEC, *Combating and Preventing HIV/AIDS-induced Child Labour in Sub-Saharan Africa: Pilot Action in Uganda and Zambia*, project document, RAF/04/P57/USA, Geneva, July 2004.

⁴⁵⁶⁰ *Ibid.*

⁴⁵⁶¹ ILO-IPEC, *Building the Foundations for Eliminating the Worst Forms of Child Labour in Anglophone Africa*, project document, RAF/02/P51/USA, Geneva, September 24, 2002.

⁴⁵⁶² ILO-IPEC, *Building the Foundation for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour in Anglophone Africa: Zambia*, technical progress report, RAF/02/P51/USA, Geneva, March 2, 2006.

⁴⁵⁶³ ILO-IPEC official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, November 16, 2006.

⁴⁵⁶⁴ *Ibid.*

⁴⁵⁶⁵ U.S. Embassy-- Lusaka, *reporting, January 17, 2007*. See also Jesus Cares Ministries, *Combating Child Labour Through Education*, technical progress report, Jesus Cares Ministries, Lusaka, March 30, 2006. See also U.S. Embassy-- Lusaka, *reporting, January 17, 2007*.

⁴⁵⁶⁶ Integrated Regional Information Networks, "Zambia: Street Kids". See also U.S. Embassy- Lusaka, *reporting, August 28, 2005*.

⁴⁵⁶⁷ U.S. Embassy- Lusaka, *reporting, August 28, 2005*.

⁴⁵⁶⁸ U.S. Embassy- Lusaka, *reporting, August 24, 2004*.

such as articles and speeches by prominent citizens, to raise awareness about child domestic labor among local communities.⁴⁵⁶⁹

The Government of Zambia continues to implement its universal primary education program, called the Basic Education Sub-Sector Investment Program (BESSIP), with the support of USAID, the World Bank, and other donors.⁴⁵⁷⁰ BESSIP specifically targets working children.⁴⁵⁷¹

⁴⁵⁶⁹ Ibid. See also, Jesus Cares Ministries, *JCM Progress Report, March 2006*.

⁴⁵⁷⁰ USAID, "Zambia: Education", [usaaid.gov](http://www.usaid.gov/zm/education/ed.htm), [online], 2006 [cited October 16, 2006]; available from <http://www.usaid.gov/zm/education/ed.htm>. See also World Bank, *The World Bank in Zambia; Country Brief 2005-2006*, Washington D.C., 2006; available from http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTZAMBIA/Resources/Zambia_2005_7.pdf.

⁴⁵⁷¹ See U.S. Embassy- Lusaka, E-mail communication to USDOL official, October 29, 2003.

Zimbabwe

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Most working children in Zimbabwe can be found in agriculture, hunting, and fishing. Children also work in domestic service, hotels, food service, mining and quarrying, manufacturing, construction, and other types of work,⁴⁵⁸¹ such as guarding cars.⁴⁵⁸² Most working children work as unpaid family workers.⁴⁵⁸³

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working:	Unavailable
Minimum age for work:	15 ⁴⁵⁷²
Age to which education is compulsory:	Not compulsory ⁴⁵⁷³
Free public education:	No ⁴⁵⁷⁴
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2003:	96% ⁴⁵⁷⁵
Net primary enrollment rate in 2003:	82% ⁴⁵⁷⁶
Percent of children 5-14 attending school:	Unavailable
As of 2002, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	70% ⁴⁵⁷⁷
Ratified Convention 138:	6/6/2000 ⁴⁵⁷⁸
Ratified Convention 182:	12/11/2000 ⁴⁵⁷⁹
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Yes, associated ⁴⁵⁸⁰

⁴⁵⁷² U.S. Department of State, "Zimbabwe," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 6d; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78765.htm>. See also U.S. Embassy- Harare, *reporting*, March 7, 2007, Investigation and Prosecution of Traffickers para C. See also ILO Committee of Experts, *Direct Request, Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138) Zimbabwe (ratification: 2000)*, [online] 2003 [cited July 14, 2006]; available from <http://webfusion.ilo.org/public/db/standards/normes/appl/>.

⁴⁵⁷³ Right to Education database, *Constitutional Guarantees: Zimbabwe*, accessed July 10, 2006; available from <http://www.right-to-education.org/content/consguarant/zimbabwe.html>. See also UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Initial Reports of State's Parties Due in 1992: Zimbabwe, Addendum, CRC/C/3/Add.35*, prepared by Government of Zimbabwe, pursuant to Article 44 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, May 23, 1995; available from

[http://www.unhcr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/\(Symbol\)/b82db9a977eea080412562e600392abc?Opendocument](http://www.unhcr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/(Symbol)/b82db9a977eea080412562e600392abc?Opendocument). See also ECPAT International CSEC Database, *Zimbabwe*, accessed October 7, 2006; available from <http://www.ecpat.net>.

⁴⁵⁷⁴ Right to Education database, *Constitutional Guarantees: Zimbabwe*. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Zimbabwe," Section 5.

⁴⁵⁷⁵ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

⁴⁵⁷⁶ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Rate. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

⁴⁵⁷⁷ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Survival Rate to Grade 5. Total*, accessed December 18, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

⁴⁵⁷⁸ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, accessed October 7, 2006; available from http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/cgi-lex/ratifgroupe.pl?class=g03_04&country=Zimbabwe.

⁴⁵⁷⁹ Ibid.

⁴⁵⁸⁰ ILO-IPEC, *IPEC Action Against Child Labour- Highlights 2006*, [online]2006 [cited October 18, 2006], 30; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ippec/prod/eng/20070228_Implementationreport_en_Web.pdf.

⁴⁵⁸¹ Zimbabwe Central Statistics Office, *Child Labour Report, 2004*, Harare, March 2006, 38-44. See also U.S. Embassy- Harare, *reporting*, December 18, 2006.

⁴⁵⁸² U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Zimbabwe," Section 6d.

⁴⁵⁸³ Zimbabwe Central Statistics Office, *Child Labour Report 2004*.

UNICEF reports that, in some cases, farmers hire children as independent contractors to avoid the appearance of employing children.⁴⁵⁸⁴ Children are reported to work on tea estates and sell sugar across the border in Mozambique. Children who engaged in domestic work for third-party households were sometimes not paid by their employers, and children orphaned by AIDS often performed domestic work for their extended relatives without pay. The number of children working in the informal sector continue to increase as more children struggle to fill the income gap left by relatives who are unemployed, ill, or deceased.⁴⁵⁸⁵

Girls in Zimbabwe are increasingly being exploited in prostitution,⁴⁵⁸⁶ with some girls reportedly engaging in prostitution to pay for school fees. The number of girls on the streets in urban areas is growing as a result of poverty and HIV/AIDS.⁴⁵⁸⁷ The belief that sex with virgins can cure sexually transmitted infections contributed to the sexual exploitation of children.⁴⁵⁸⁸ Some reports indicate that girls are being sexually exploited in exchange for passage across the border to South Africa.⁴⁵⁸⁹

Within Zimbabwe, girls are trafficked from rural to urban areas for commercial sexual exploitation in brothels under false pretenses of marriage or employment. Girls from rural areas are also trafficked to urban areas for domestic service, and to farms for agricultural labor.⁴⁵⁹⁰ A few South African girls are trafficked into the country for domestic work.⁴⁵⁹¹ Children who had been orphaned by HIV/AIDS and displaced persons were among the groups at highest risk of being trafficked.⁴⁵⁹²

The government continues to run national youth service training camps. Youth who deserted the camps indicated that they were subjected to military training, as well as racist and partisan political indoctrination. Additionally, graduates of the program were used to commit acts of political violence.⁴⁵⁹³

⁴⁵⁸⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Zimbabwe," Section 6d.

⁴⁵⁸⁵ Ibid.

⁴⁵⁸⁶ Ibid.

⁴⁵⁸⁷ ECPAT International CSEC Database, *Zimbabwe*.

⁴⁵⁸⁸ Integrated Regional Information Networks, "Zimbabwe: Child Abused Every Hour, New Data Reveals", IRINnews.org, [online], November 20, 2006 [cited November 27, 2006]; available from <http://www.irinnews.org/print.asp?ReportID=56443>. See also UNICEF, *UNICEF "Shocked and Outraged" at Latest Case of Child Rape in Zimbabwe*, press release, August 1, 2006; available from http://www.unicef.org/infobycountry/media_35154.html?q=printme. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Zimbabwe."

⁴⁵⁸⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Zimbabwe," Section 5. See also U.S. Embassy- Harare, *reporting, March 7, 2007*, Overview para B.

⁴⁵⁹⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Zimbabwe." See also U.S. Department of State, "Zimbabwe (Tier 3)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/65989.htm>. See also U.S. Embassy- Harare, *reporting, March 7, 2007*, Overview para B.

⁴⁵⁹¹ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Zimbabwe." See also U.S. Embassy- Harare, *reporting, March 7, 2007*, Overview Section B.

⁴⁵⁹² U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Zimbabwe," Section 5.

⁴⁵⁹³ Ibid. See also Integrated Regional Information Networks, "Zimbabwe: 'Green Bombers' Deserting Poor Conditions in Camps", IRINnews.org, [previously online], January 24, 2004 [cited October 7, 2005]; available from <http://www.irinnews.org/print.asp?ReportID=39106> [hard copy on file].

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The minimum age for employment in Zimbabwe is 15 years.⁴⁵⁹⁴ Children between 13 and 15 may be employed if they are apprentices or if their work is an integral part of a vocational training program. At 15, children may engage in light work beyond training programs, and young persons under 18 years are prohibited from performing work that might jeopardize their health, safety, or morals. Child labor offenses are punishable by a fine, imprisonment of 2 years, or both.⁴⁵⁹⁵

The law also prohibits the involvement of children in hazardous labor, defined as any work likely to interfere with the education of children; expose children to hazardous substances; involve underground mining; require the use of electronically powered hand tools, cutting, or grinding blades; expose children to extreme conditions; or occur during a night shift.⁴⁵⁹⁶

No law specifically prohibits trafficking in persons. However, the law does prohibit various types of sexual exploitation, including the transportation of individuals across the border for sexual purposes and procuring individuals for prostitution either inside Zimbabwe or internationally. The law provides penalties of a fine and up to 2 years of imprisonment for those convicted of procuring individuals for prostitution, and it provides a stronger penalty of up to 10 years of imprisonment in cases involving the procurement of children under 10.⁴⁵⁹⁷ The law prohibits compulsory or forced labor, including by children, but provides exceptions in cases where such labor is required from a member of a disciplined force, the national youth service, or parents. The law provides penalties of 2 years of imprisonment, a fine, or both, for forced labor violations.⁴⁵⁹⁸ The minimum age for both military conscription and for voluntary recruitment into the armed forces is 18 years. The minimum age for joining the national youth service training is 16 years.⁴⁵⁹⁹

The Ministry of Labor's Department of Social Welfare is responsible for the enforcement of child labor laws; however, it could not conduct inspections or monitoring for lack of personnel.⁴⁶⁰⁰

The Zimbabwe Republic Police, which is officially part of the Ministry of Home Affairs, is responsible for combating trafficking.⁴⁶⁰¹ The government has established Victim Friendly

⁴⁵⁹⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Zimbabwe," Section 6d. See also U.S. Embassy- Harare, *reporting, March 7, 2007*. See also ILO Committee of Experts, *Direct Request, Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No.138)*.

⁴⁵⁹⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Zimbabwe," Section 6d. See also U.S. Embassy- Harare, *reporting, March 7, 2007, Investigation and Prosecution of Traffickers* para C.

⁴⁵⁹⁶ ILO NATLEX National Labor Law Database, *Children's Protection and Adoption Amendment Act, 2001 (No. 23)*, June 4, 2003; available from http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/natlex_browse.home.

⁴⁵⁹⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Zimbabwe." See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Zimbabwe," Section 5.

⁴⁵⁹⁸ Government of Zimbabwe, *Constitution of Zimbabwe*, Chapter 3, Article 14; available from <http://www.parl.zim.gov.zw/Resources/Constitution/constitution.html>. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Zimbabwe," Sections 5 and 6c.

⁴⁵⁹⁹ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Zimbabwe," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, London; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=779.

⁴⁶⁰⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Zimbabwe," Section 6d.

Courts, which are mandated to hear trafficking cases.⁴⁶⁰² In 2006, the government sentenced a woman to 4 years in prison for having trafficked a child into prostitution.⁴⁶⁰³

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

In 2006, the Government of Zimbabwe established a task force for coordinating anti-trafficking efforts. The taskforce is comprised of members from the Ministries of Home Affairs, Justice, Parliamentarian Affairs, Foreign Affairs, Labor, Social Welfare, Information, and Public Service.⁴⁶⁰⁴ Senior government officials participated in a trafficking training workshop conducted by the IOM and officials from law enforcement, immigration, and social services received training to identify and assist victims of trafficking.⁴⁶⁰⁵

Media outlets sponsored by the government ran anti-trafficking messages, including some produced by the IOM, and continued to print and air public service announcements warning against prostitution and employment scams that could result in trafficking. The Ministries of Public Service, Social Welfare, and Labor also collaborated with an NGO to operate a center to help reunite deported children with their families. The center offered psychosocial support for child victims of sexual exploitation.⁴⁶⁰⁶

⁴⁶⁰¹ Ibid., Sections 1d. and 5.

⁴⁶⁰² U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Zimbabwe."

⁴⁶⁰³ U.S. Embassy- Harare, *reporting, March 7, 2007*, Overview para B.

⁴⁶⁰⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Zimbabwe," Section 5. See also U.S. Embassy- Harare, *reporting, March 7, 2007*, Prevention para B.

⁴⁶⁰⁵ U.S. Embassy- Harare, *reporting, March 7, 2007*, Overview para B.

⁴⁶⁰⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Zimbabwe."

Territories and Non-Independent Countries

There is limited information on the extent and nature of child in non-independent countries and territories eligible for GSP, AGOA, ATPA/ATPDEA, and CBTPA benefits. These countries and territories generally are not eligible to become members of the ILO, so ILO Conventions 138 and 182 do not apply to any of them.⁴⁶⁰⁷ Territories are subject to the laws of the sovereign country.

There were few significant changes to report in the status of child labor and efforts to address it in the non-independent countries and territories since the last reporting period. For more detailed information on these issues, please refer to the U.S. Department of Labor's 2005 *Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labor*.⁴⁶⁰⁸

Anguilla (Territory of the United Kingdom)

During the reporting period, new statistics on education in Anguilla became available. In 2004, the gross primary enrollment rate was 93 percent,⁴⁶⁰⁹ and the net primary enrollment rate was 88 percent.⁴⁶¹⁰ Gross and net enrollment ratios are based on the number of students formally registered in primary school and therefore do not necessarily reflect actual school attendance.

British Virgin Islands (Territory of the United Kingdom)

During the reporting period, new statistics on education in the British Virgin Islands became available. In 2004, the gross primary enrollment rate was 108 percent,⁴⁶¹¹ and the net primary enrollment rate was 95 percent.⁴⁶¹²

Christmas Island and Cocos (Keeling) Islands (Territories of Australia)

Western Australian state laws on education and child welfare apply to both territories.⁴⁶¹³ An amendment to the Western Australia School Education Act extended compulsory education to age 16.⁴⁶¹⁴

⁴⁶⁰⁷ ILO official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, January 31, 2002. See ILO, *Constitution*; available from <http://www.ilo.org/public/english/about/iloconst.htm>.

⁴⁶⁰⁸ U.S. Department of Labor, "Territories and Non-Independent Countries," in 2005 *Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labor*, Washington DC, 2006.

⁴⁶⁰⁹ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org>.

⁴⁶¹⁰ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Rate. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

⁴⁶¹¹ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*.

⁴⁶¹² UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Rate. Primary. Total*.

⁴⁶¹³ The Department of Local Government and Regional Development, *Key Facts for Local Government in Australia*, [online] 2007 [cited March 16, 2007]; available from <http://www.dlgrd.wa.gov.au/localgovt/careers/whatis.asp>.

⁴⁶¹⁴ *Western Australia School Education Act 1999*, Section 6; available from, <http://www.slp.wa.gov.au/statutes/swans.nsf/html/agency+educ+acts?opendocument>.

Cook Islands (Self-Governing State in Free Association with New Zealand)

During the reporting period, new statistics on education in the Cook Islands became available. In 2003, the gross primary enrollment rate was 82 percent.⁴⁶¹⁵

Falkland Islands (Territory of the United Kingdom)

There are no changes to report for the Falkland Islands.

Gibraltar (Territory of the United Kingdom)

There are no changes to report for Gibraltar.

Montserrat (Territory of the United Kingdom)

During the reporting period, new statistics on education in Montserrat became available. In 2004, the gross primary enrollment rate was 108 percent,⁴⁶¹⁶ and the net primary enrollment rate was 94 percent.⁴⁶¹⁷

Niue (Self-Governing State in Free Association with New Zealand)

During the reporting period, new statistics on education in Niue became available. In 2004, the gross primary enrollment rate was 87 percent.⁴⁶¹⁸

Norfolk Island (Jointly-Governed Territory of Australia)

There are no changes to report for Norfolk Island.

Pitcairn Islands (Territory of the United Kingdom)

There are no changes to report for Pitcairn Islands.

Saint Helena (Territory of the United Kingdom)

There are no changes to report for Saint Helena.

Tokelau (Self-Administering Territory of New Zealand)

There are no changes to report for Tokelau.

⁴⁶¹⁵ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total.*

⁴⁶¹⁶ Ibid.

⁴⁶¹⁷ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Rate. Primary. Total.*

⁴⁶¹⁸ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total.*

Turks and Caicos Islands (Territory of the United Kingdom)

During the reporting period, new statistics on education in the Turks and Caicos Islands became available. In 2004, the gross primary enrollment rate was 94 percent,⁴⁶¹⁹ and the net primary enrollment rate was 81 percent.⁴⁶²⁰

West Bank and Gaza Strip (Occupied Territories Subject to the Jurisdiction of the Palestinian Authority)

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Many children in West Bank and Gaza Strip work on family farms, in family shops, as street vendors, or in small manufacturing enterprises.⁴⁶²⁶ There have been reports of Palestinian terrorist groups using minors to assist in attacks, to smuggle weapons, and to act as human shields.⁴⁶²⁷

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor	
Percent of children ages 5-14 estimated as working:	Unavailable
Minimum age for admission to work:	15 ⁴⁶²¹
Age to which education is compulsory:	6-15 ⁴⁶²²
Free public education:	Unavailable
Gross primary enrollment rate:	Unavailable
Net primary enrollment rate:	Unavailable
Percent of children 5-14 attending school:	Unavailable
Percentage of Primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	Unavailable
Ratified Convention 138:	n/a ⁴⁶²³
Ratified Convention 182:	n/a ⁴⁶²⁴
ILO-IPEC participating country:	No ⁴⁶²⁵

Palestinian children working in Israeli settlements face problems concerning security, exploitation, and harassment.⁴⁶²⁸

⁴⁶¹⁹ Ibid.

⁴⁶²⁰ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Rate. Primary. Total.*

⁴⁶²¹ U.S. Department of State, *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2005: Israel and the Occupied Territories. Section 6d*, Washington, D.C., March 8, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2005/61690.htm>, Section 6d, accessed January 26, 2007.

⁴⁶²² UNESCO, *EFA Global Monitoring Report: 2006 Education for All - Life Literacy for Life*, Paris, 2005 2005; available from <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0014/001416/141639e.pdf>.

⁴⁶²³ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, accessed April 24, 2007; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/newratframeE.htm>.

⁴⁶²⁴ Ibid.

⁴⁶²⁵ ILO, *IPEC Action Against Child Labor Highlights 2006*, October 2006; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ipcc/prod/eng/20061019_Implementationreport_eng_Web.pdf.

⁴⁶²⁶ U.S. Department of State, *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006: Israel and the occupied Territories*, Washington, D.C., March 6, 2007; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78854.htm>.

⁴⁶²⁷ U.S. Department of State, *Country Reports- 2006: Israel and the occupied Territories*

⁴⁶²⁸ Ibid. Section 6d.

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The minimum age for work in the West Bank and Gaza is unclear. The U.S. Department of State lists the minimum working age to be both 14 and 15.⁴⁶²⁹ There are restrictions on the employment of children between the ages of 15 and 18.⁴⁶³⁰ The restrictions include prohibitions against night work, work under conditions of hard labor, or jobs that require them to travel outside their domicile.⁴⁶³¹ Children between the age of 15 and 18 must be cleared by a medical exam before beginning work, and are to receive a check up every 6 months thereafter.⁴⁶³² Exceptions are made to those children between the ages of 15 and 18 who work for their direct relatives and under their supervision.⁴⁶³³

The law also prohibits the exploitation of children, and states that children shall not be allowed to perform work that might damage their safety, health, or education.⁴⁶³⁴ The law states that the Palestinian Authority (PA) will strive to provide work to anyone who is capable of performing it, and that work is a right, duty, and honor.⁴⁶³⁵ According to an official from the labor ministry, the PA has interpreted this law to mean that forced and compulsory labor is prohibited.⁴⁶³⁶ There is no law specifically prohibiting trafficking in persons.⁴⁶³⁷ No trafficking incidents have been reported.⁴⁶³⁸ Prostitution is illegal, and there were no reports of prostitution being openly practiced.⁴⁶³⁹ The law also requires investigations into allegations of recruiting and exploiting children in armed operations, and those responsible for such activities are to be tried in a court of law.⁴⁶⁴⁰ The PA is responsible for enforcement of the law; however, with only 10 child labor inspectors as of September 2005, the most recent date such information is available, the PA has had difficulty in efforts to monitor and protect child workers.⁴⁶⁴¹

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

Research has not identified any policies or programs by the Palestinian Authority to address exploitive child labor.

⁴⁶²⁹ Ibid. Section 5.

⁴⁶³⁰ U.S. Department of State, *Country Reports- 2005: Israel and the Occupied Territories.*, Section 6d.

⁴⁶³¹ Ibid., Section 6d.

⁴⁶³² *Bill of Labor & Laborers, Palestinian National Authority*; available from <http://www.pnic.gov.ps/english/law/law10.html>, Article (94).

⁴⁶³³ Ibid., Article (99).

⁴⁶³⁴ U.S. Department of State, *Country Reports- 2005: Israel and the Occupied Territories.*, Section 6c.

⁴⁶³⁵ Ibid., Section 6c.

⁴⁶³⁶ Ibid., Section 6c.

⁴⁶³⁷ Ibid., Section 5.

⁴⁶³⁸ Ibid., Section 5.

⁴⁶³⁹ Ibid., Section 5.

⁴⁶⁴⁰ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004: Occupied Palestinian Territories*, November 17, 2004; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=959.

⁴⁶⁴¹ U.S. Department of State, *Country Reports- 2005: Israel and the Occupied Territories.*, Section 6d.

Western Sahara

There are no changes to report for Western Sahara.

Other Territories and Non-Independent Countries

Information on the incidence and nature of child labor, child labor laws and legislation, and government policies and programs to eliminate the worst forms of child labor is unavailable for the following territories and non-independent countries: British Indian Ocean Territory (territory of the United Kingdom), Heard Island and MacDonal Islands (territory of Australia), and Wallis and Futuna (territory of France).

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